FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

15 MAY 1986

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi planes bombed a Tehran-bound passenger train at a station north of Ahvaz in Khuzestan Province, killing 54 civilians and wounding 246 others, according to IRNA reports. Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi warned that the attack will not go unanswered, while a military statement declared that Iran will "decisively respond" to the Iraqi action, IRNA reported. Tehran radio subsequently revealed that the Iranian Foreign Ministry has sent a note to the UN secretary general in which it "strongly condemns" the Iraqi air strike.

As for Iraq's attack in the northern Hajj 'Umran area, a military report cited by Tehran radio stated that Iraq lost over 2,500 troops killed or wounded in the offensive, which was "fully crushed" by Iranian forces. Over 15 Iraqi tanks were destroyed and an Iraqi helicopter airstrip in Diyanah was bombed by Iranian planes, IRNA reported earlier. On the other hand, communiques broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio claimed that Iraq captured several peaks overlooking the Hajj 'Umran basin in an offensive that was "settled completely" in Iraq's "favor." Further south, in the Faqqeh area, Iranian forces defeated another Iraqi attack, killing or wounding over 400 enemy troops and destroying over 22 tanks, according to a military report cited by IRNA. For Iraq's part, a communique reported that an Iranian offensive in the East Maysan area was repulsed with 780 Iranians killed and scores captured, according to Voice of the Masses.

In air activity, Iranian planes raided the Iraqi oil installations and refinery in Kirkuk, causing "substantial damage" to them, according to a communique cited by IRNA.

The Baghdad paper *AL-THAWRAH* asserted that an undisclosed number of fighters from eight Arab countries, including Syria, Egypt, and Jordan, are to depart for southern Iraq to participate in the fighting against Iranian forces in the Al-Faw area, according to WAKH.

Sudan

The composition of the new cabinet was announced by Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi in a 15 May statement to the Constituent Assembly reported by SUNA, which noted that Al-Mahdi himself is the new defense minister while Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) Secretary General Al-Sharif Zayn al-'Abidin al-Hindi becomes deputy prime minister and foreign minister. The majority of portfolios are distributed among the Al-Ummah National Party and the DUP, but the Cabinet also includes four southerners and a new minister for "peace and unity" whose brief reflects the importance of the south in the government's priorities, according to an earlier KUNA report.

As for the new government's foreign policy, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi told a 14 May press conference that Sudan will maintain good-neighborly relations with Libya but that it is still keen to maintain relations with the United States. Sudan will seek relations with the superpowers without military, security, or political affiliations, he added. The new government will review treaties concluded by former President Ja'far al-Numayri, including the defense pact with Egypt, and it will hold talks with Egyptian officials on the integration agreement to find an acceptable alternative. He also said legislation to rectify the 1983 Islamic laws will be one of his government's top priorities.

DRA

PDPA Secretary General Najibullah announced the strengthening and consolidation of the PDPA "collective" leadership in a 14 May speech carried by BAKHTAR. He said authority will henceforth be divided in a "logical manner" with Babrak Karmal concentrating on the work of new state organs and Soltan Ali Keshtmand focusing on the tasks of government and economic policy.

Jordan

Three students were killed and 18 policemen were injured during clashes between student demonstrators and police at Yarmuk University, an Interior Ministry spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Amman radio 15 May. Accusing a student "sabotage group" of exploiting the dismissal of 32 students from the university 13 May, the spokesman said the protests began that day and continued the following day when the demonstrators caused "havoc" on the campus. The police managed to control the situation and to arrest several agitators, he stated.

Syria

Reaction to Peres Statement — Commenting on Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' statement that there is no chance of a political settlement with Syria as long as President Hafiz al-Asad remains in power, Damascus radio affirmed that Syria seeks a "just and comprehensive" peace but it rejects the Arab "capitulation" envisaged in Israel's understanding of peace. The main obstacle to peace in the Middle East is Israel's occupation and seizure of other people's territory, its denial of Palestinian national rights, and its drive to establish a "Greater Israel," the radio maintained. An *AL-BA'TH* editorial cited by the radio stressed that Al-Asad's leadership is a "firm guarantee" that the Arab struggle will be maintained.

Lebanese Hostages — In Lebanon, a caller claiming affiliation with Islamic Jihad warned that the Jihad's foreign hostages will be "the first who will pay" for "pressure" on Syria and the Jihad group, according to AFP. The caller did not say how many hostages remain but he disclosed that some have already been

executed. The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon said the caller also warned Syria against trying to secure the release of the U.S. and French hostages.

Israel

West Bank — A curfew was imposed in Nabulus following violent demonstrations by Palestinian residents protesting a scheduled Independence Day march by Jewish settlers, Jerusalem radio reported. At least five Palestinians were injured in clashes with police.

Arms Smuggling — Responding to the arrest by U.S. authorities of Israeli citizen Ze'ev Reiss on suspicion of arms smuggling, the Defense Ministry announced that it knows nothing about Reiss and that an investigation indicates that he does not hold a permit to deal in exporting arms, according to Jerusalem radio.

Kuwait

Finance Minister Jasim al-Kharafi recently revealed that Kuwait is studying the possibility of diverting some of its investments from the West to the East and Third World countries including the Soviet Union and China, KUNA reported. The minister was replying to a question raised in the National Assembly on the future of Kuwait's investments in the West in light of the freezing of Libyan assets in the United States.

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Today's edition of the Soviet Union DAILY REPORT supplement "Chernobyl Incident" will be the last of the special series that began on 7 May. Further reportage and comment on this nuclear accident will be published in the relevant volumes of the DAILY REPORT.

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PLO's Al-Wazir on Adherence to Cairo Agreement

JN141811 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1718 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Paelstinian revolution forces, has affirmed that the PLO adheres to the Cairo agreement governing relations between the PLO and the official Lebanese authorities concluded in Cairo in 1969. In a statement published in Beirut, Abu Jihad said that relations between the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples are stronger than any agreement. In this regard, he stressed the PLO's belief that the Cairo agreement should govern the official relations between the PLO and the Lebanese state. He also affirmed the PLO's rejection of any interference in Lebanon's domestic affairs, adding: But we stick to our right to defend ourselves and protect our camps from the Zionist aggression or from any aggression against their existence.

PLO's Qaddumi Meets Polish Ambassador in Tunis

JN141918 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1718 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, met with the Polish ambassador to Tunisia in Tunis yesterday. The talks dealt with the latest developments in the Palestinian, Arab, and international arenas. The Polish ambassador handed him an official invitation to the PLO to attend the 10th congress of the Polish United Workers' Party scheduled for next month.

Departs Tunis for Paris

GF141910 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1800 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, left Tunis today for Paris on a short visit to France. He will hold talks with a number of French officials. The French-Palestinian talks are likely to center on the latest developments of the Palestinian issue, the situation in the Mediterranean region, the Iraq-Iran war, and Zionist threats against Syria, as well as the French role in supporting the legitimate demands of the Palestinian people. Prior to his departure from Tunis Brother Abu al-Lutf met with French Ambassador to Tunisia Eric Rouleau and discussed with him the preparations for his visit to Paris and the issues to be discussed during his official meetings there.

Commentary Views Possible Syrian-Israeli Clash

JN122030 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1658 GMT 12 May 86

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Arab, Israeli, and Western news reports say that war between Syria and Israel is imminent and that its outbreak is all but decided. Some reports say that the Israeli objective is to deal a blow to the ever-increasing Syrian military power before it becomes too difficult for Israel to do so. Before anything else, we must emphasize that the Zionist enemy's endeavor is to destroy any Arab military power which may pose at one moment or another a military threat to the Zionist entity if an all-out Arab-Israeli war were to break out.

Within this context, it becomes clear and understandable why the Israeli enemy seeks to prolong the Iraqi-Iranian war and does its best to keep it raging. In short, the destruction of any Arab military power which is steadily increasing constitutes a strategic objective for the Israeli enemy. However, this objective, although strategic, does not alone constitute a motive for the outbreak of war. There are many circumstances, objectives, political reasons, and various designs which are involved and which make war a necessity.

The eurption of war may be necessary to arrange some kind of a settlement within the attainment of a strategic objective or as a result of the limited war. The expected war between Syria and Israel is within this context. In other words, many fear the results of a war between Syria and Israel will be later employed to attain some kind of political settlement which the Israeli enemy and Washington would try to tailor in accordance with their objectives and hostile designs, particularly in respect to the Palestinian cause and its liquidation.

Why this fear? Because the war, if it takes place, will be limited and not comprehenisve in view of Arab division. This fear is also substantiated by the fact that the Syrian regime has started offering the required concessions. Without any preliminaries, the Syrian president personally resumed his attacks against the PLO and its leader Yasir 'Arafat and announced that he will not permit the state of affairs in Lebanon to return to what it was before 1982. We do not doubt that there is anyone who believes that this announcement is addressed to Israel.

No one also doubts that the attack against the PLO and its leader Yasir 'Arafat reassures Israel before anyone else. Objectively speaking, we say that if there is a slight chance that a political settlement of the Middle East problem could be attained as a result of the expected war, then why does the Syrian side now resume its media campaign against the PLO and its leader Yasir 'Arafat? This campaign seeks to clarify that the differences with the PLO are still pending, that the PLO continues to be persona non grata in Damascus, and that coordination with it as an independent party continues to be rejected by Damascus.

We have the right to ask this question and to ask too whether a real war can take place against Israel without the PLO, wich pursues an effective war against it. Can a real war take place while the Israeli enemy does not want the Palestinians to have any presence in Lebanon and while the Syrian side announces that it will not permit the situation in Lebanon to return to what it was before 1982? This means that the Syrian side will not allow Palestinian fighters to return to the state of affairs that prevailed before the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in the summer of 1982.

Why then this announcement which was made in light of another announcement about an expected war with the enemy? How then can the equation stand? This is a big question. Will war break out to reply to this question?

BAHRAIN

Release of Workers Not End of Dispute With Qatar

GF150538 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 15 May 86 p 1

[Article by a staff reporter]

[Text] Release of 30 men held hostage by Qatar has failed to diffuse the Fasht al Dibal crisis.

And fears are high that Qatar may now press its territorial dispute through further military action.

All diplomatic efforts which Bahrain has continually supported — to resolve the crisis have ended in stalemate.

With Qatari troops in place on the tiny island, and being reinforced, other GCC states are, according to informed sources, viewing the deadlock as "explosive".

A senior observer told the GDN [Gulf Daily News]: "There has been no military withdrawal whatsoever following the release of the 30 hostages.

"Qatar is maintaining heavy artillery, rockets and soldiers on the island and a further huge arsenal of weapons and men is stationed south opposite the Hawar Islands."

Recent internal problems in Qatar are also fuelling fears of an escalation of the crisis from Doha.

"There people are unpredictable and have already proved capable of treating innocent people in an uncivilised manner," said the observer.

Qatar's army and air-force is known to be on a state of high alert and normal air corridors for civilian aircraft are closed.

In the face of this tension, however, Bahrain is maintaining hopes of a peaceful solution.

"There is a state of confusion over what the Qataris are up to," said the observer.

"The captives were freed following constant diplomatic pressure which was the government's first priority. Troop withdrawal was the second.

"Since then, however, all mediation efforts to end the stand-off have hit a stone wall."

KUWAIT

Government Seeks To Diversify Foreign Investments

LD141248 Kuwait KUNA in English 1156 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] London, May 14 (KUNA) — Kuwait's announcement that it will seek to diversify its foreign investments has created considerable interest among financial circles in London, where a significant part of the country's investment activities are based. Initially, market-watchers greeted the announcement, by Finance Minister Jasim al-Kharafi, with concern, fearing that large sums invested in the West could be pulled out and diverted to Third World and Socialist countries.

Al-Kharafi had said that Kuwait was studying the possibility of boosting its investment in countries such as the Soviet Union, China, India, Turkey and South Korea. He was replying to a question in the National Assembly about the future of Kuwaiti investments in the West, especially after the freezing of Libyan assets in the United States.

Although financial observers here have said they expect no significant immediate change in Kuwaiti investment policy, the announcement has raised interest in the long-term effects of Kuwait's desire for more diversification. At present, the bulk of Kuwaiti investments are in Western markets, including some 4.22 billion dinars (14.7 billion dollars) in the U.S. and a major London-based operation under teh direction of the highly-regarded Kuwait investment office.

THE GUARDIAN newspaper, in a commentary on the Kuwaiti announcement, said Al-Kharafi's statement was "very important" on two counts. Firstly, because of the declining U.S. currency, the statement will encourage other countries and firms with big dollar investments to seek other markets for their cash. However the paper pointed out that many Third World economies with a promising investment potential lack the necessary financial mechanisms to attract capital from abroad.

Therefore Kuwait's declared wish to diversify its investments is likely to encourage countries such as India to develop new financial instruments and products, in order to attract foreign equity investments in their industries, which are rapidly becoming profitable and competitive. The paper described Kuwait as "a sophisticated investor" and concluded that while the Kuwaiti announcement may not have much short-term effect, in the long run it could mark a new trend in the financial world. "When (Kuwait) speaks, others should listen", *THE GUARDIAN* commented.

QATAR

Saudi Minister Conveys King's Message to Amir

GF141052 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 14 May 86

[Excerpts] Amir of Qatar His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani has received a written message from his brother His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, monarch of the fraternal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The message was conveyed by Saudi Education Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Kuwaytir during a meeting with his highness the amir at al-Dawhah Palace before noon today. QNA has learned that the message deals with new developments in the Gulf arena and relations between the two fraternal countries.

SAUDI ARABIA

Tornado Deal Reflects 'Essence' of Defense Policy

PM141332 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 7 May 86 p 1

[Unattributed "News Analysis": "The Tornado Deal: Its Significance and Its Dimensions"]

[Text] The Tornado aircraft which will fly in the kingdom's sky today are the first batch of a 132-aircraft deal worth about 5 million pounds sterling which observers consider to be one of the biggest military deals in contemporary history.

The observers believe that this deal clearly reflects the essence of the kingdom's defense policy, which is based on a number of principles, the most important of which are: First: The kingdom's desire to build and strengthen its defense capabilities in the midst of a turbulent world and an inflammable area within the framework of a strategy primarily aimed at strengthening security and stability, defending our gains, and protecting all sacred things.

Second: The kingdom is always anxious to diversify its sources of armament and to benefit from the latest products of the technology of the age and of the world's arsenals. The Tornado deal in this regard proves that the kingdom is capable of obtaining its arms and military hardware requirements from any quarter that understands the reality of its requirements, meets its requests, and does not subject such deals to extortion of any kind.

Third: The kingdom buys arms directly with its money and unconditionally. It does not resort to borrowing, which always gives it the freedom of decision-making Fourth: The observers assert that the kingdom's success in concluding the Tornado deal was a success for its defense policy which is based on the above principles and on maintaining a strategic balance in the area where military quarters point out to the fact that Israel's growing military power in the Middle East makes it necessary to maintain a balance which, if disturbed, will expose the area to the danger of a conflagration breaking out at any time.

Fifth: The observers believe from a purely political and military standpoint that it is natural for the kingdom, being the cornerstone of any regional or international effort to defuse the situation in the area, particularly at a time when the Iraq-Iran war has reached a stalemate, to acquire all means of strength and military sufficiency in order to prepare the suitable ground that would enable it to play its ideal political role of maintaining stability in the area.Sixth: The military circles and the quarters concerned note with great appreciation the progress the kingdom has made in obtaining the latest equipment for its armed forces as well as in providing the cadres and the manpower capable of using the modern equipment and aircraft. This emanates from a firm and basic concept of the kingdom's defense policy, which provides that real strength lies not only in providing aircraft, guns, and missiles but also in a manpower capable of absorbing this equipment and using it in accordance with preset objectives and strategy.

Agfund Chief Rules Out Early Arab Summit

LD141545 Kuwait KUNA in English 1306 GMT 14 May 86

[By Samir Quaryouti]

[Text] Rome, May 14 (KUNA) — Prince Talal ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia ruled out Wednesday the convening of an early Arab summit due to "the entangled Arab problems" and said the Arab world can not advance even one step in the absence of democratic freedoms.

In an exclusive interview with KUNA, Prince Talal who is president of the Arabian Gulf Program for Support of U.S. Development Organizations (Agfund), proposed a summit which avoids contentious political subjects and rather concentrates on development issues, food security and integration. Prince Talal said Arab ruptures and political differences were placing big obstacles in the face of holding the proposed Arab summit.

"If we stay clear from the controversial problems which have become known to every Arab, then our leaders can come to minimal agreement," the Saudi prince noted. He said Arab governments cannot ignore either superpowers and should forge friendly ties based on mutual respect and understanding.

Prince Talal said progress and prosperity come through democratic life and it is up to each Arab country to choose the form of democracy it wishes and suits its circumstances. "It will be very difficult for the Arab world and developing nations in general to achieve progress without first accepting democracy and freedoms of expression and thinking," said Prince Talal who yesterday attended a meeting of the food and agriculture organization.

He said the Arab nation has to give more attention to its growing future needs in view of its high population growth rate. According to U.S. figures supported by Arab League studies, the Agfund president said, the Arab import bill of cereals, oils and meats is to range between 90 and 250 billion dollars compared with a population of 260-290 millions in the year 2000. He said without serious efforts to increase Arab food productivity, the Arab nation is destined to face a food catastrophe.

On Arab American relations, the Saudi Prince said "anti-Arab feelings in the U.S. has reached unprecedented levels not only because of the strong Zionist lobby there but also due to Arab behavoir...and the idiocy of some Arabs." Prince Talal said the Arab would has many friends in the West but they have been dismayed by lack of Arab unity.

Speaking of Gulf affairs, the Agfund president said the Gulf Cooperation Council might become just another Arab League if "Gulf citizens are not involed in council meetings, deliberations and resolutions." The council was founded in 1981 by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and the United Arab Emirates to enhance economic and political cooperation.

He said the Arab Gulf states are now facing a "terrifying" economic crisis in the aftermath of the oil boom of the 1970's. The Prince said instead of pinning blame, efforts should be channeled towards curing the economic ills of the Gulf region.

Commenting on the Palestinian cause, Prince Talal said he saw no early settlement of the problem but Arab intellectuals have to draw world public opinion to the necessity of resolving it.

King Approves Proposals To Ban Food Imports

GF150457 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Royal approval has been granted to proposals submitted by their excellencies the ministers of health and commerce with regard to precautionary measures to avert the harm resulting from the pollution of foodstuffs in countries that are affected by radiation as a result of the recent explosion of the Soviet nuclear power plant.

Reportage on Visit by Syria's Foreign Minister

Arrives 14 May

GF141206 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' arrived in al-Ta'if this afternoon on a brief visit to the Kingdom. He was received at the Hawiyah Airport in al-Ta'if by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister, and a number of officials.

Delivers Message to King, Departs

GF150500 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2315 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Al-Ta'if, 14 May (SPA) — His Excellency Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' left Al-Ta'if tonight following a visit to the Kingdom during which he delivered a verbal message to His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz from His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic. He was seen off at Al-Hawiyah Airport in Al-Ta'if by a number of senior officials and a representative of royal protocol.

Mubarak Views Palestinian Question, Other Issues

PM131049 Paris LE MATIN in French 9 May 86 p 10

[Alain Chemali dispatch: "Race for Mubarak"]

[text] Cairo — Egyptian President Husni Mubarak celebrated his 58th birthday on 4 May. It was an almost young, fully fit man who hurried into Al-'Urubah palace where he has his office. He had only just finished his daily squash session. Every morning between 0600 and 0700 the Rais starts his day with this exercise, his close aides explained. However, the previous day he had a 'secret' meeting which went on until 0300 with Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, who was in Cairo on the first leg of a tour of several Arab capitals.

This secret visit was not mentioned at all during the interview with Husni Mubarak. For the time being the Egyptian president's main concern is to restore Egypt to its true role in the Arab world: "We are a pivot in the region, and nobody will rob us of our place."

The cornerstone of his action is still the attempt to find a peaceful solution to the Palestinian problem. "The Palestinians' right to self-determination in the framework of a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation must be recognized. Nobody can ignore the PLO; we must be realistic, and we will be able to find a solution." The main obstacle to this solution is obviously still "the Arab states' inability to agree. They are fighting among themselves and each is seeking its own interest. Egypt has good relations with most of these states: Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Jordan. It has problems primarily with Syria and Libya."

With regard to Syria, Mubarak reaffirmed that President al-Asad ought to withdraw from Lebanon. As for the Palestinian question, "the Syrian president said in Yugoslavia a few days ago that the problem ought to be solved peacefully. He admitted this during the Fes summit, but when he returned home he said that only force could win the day. Frankly, I do not understand what the Syrian president wants; if he were sincere he could cooperate easily." With regard to relations with the United States, the Rais emphasized the fact that many Arab states, including Syria, have good relations with Washington and that he had doubts about the implementation of the recent threats of American reprisals against Syria.

"The Great Fear"

But the problem of peace remains. "The situation was one of complete deadlock from the Israeli invasion of Lebanon until the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement of 11 February 1985. Today the great fear is that there will be very serious consequences if the United States does not agree, and we will have even more terrorism. The Palestinians want a land, and they are one of the main causes of terrorism. And by recognizing their rights we deprive some countries of the opportunity of using the Palestinian cause for their own benefit."

President Mubarak believes, however, that he lacks the power to pressure the Americans: "We are dealing with a superpower, and I can do not more than make contact and provide explanations to persuade them to accept the Palestinians' right to self-determination." On the Israeli side, the Rais has no prejudices: "We must negotiate with any Israeli government (Likud or Labor). We signed the Camp David agreements with Begin, but Peres is much more flexible and I would like to reach some agreements with him before his term of office is over. As far as Shamir is concerned, he did not agree with the Camp David negotiations, and he now thinks we are violating the agreements."

The Camp David agreements enabled Egypt to recover all its territory and oil and to open the Suez Canal. The Egyptian president hopes that the second of these agreements relating to the peaceful solution of the Palestinian problem will start to be implemented and that some Arab states will regret not joining in the process. The Egyptian approach is clear.

A few days ago Mubarak met the PLO leader, and he is due to meet King Husayn shortly. "I am going to revive the situation before we reach deadlock," he explained. "'Arafat emphasized the conditions for self-determination and he is prepared to recognize Resolution 242, which is a decisive precondition for Palestinian participation in an international conference."

'Abd al-Majid, Chadian Minister Discuss Relations

NC141309 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1200 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Cairo, 14 May (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met today with Ahmed Korom, the Chadian minister of state for foreign affairs, who is currently on a visit to Cairo. Ambassador Ahmad Sidqi, director of the Foreign Ministry's African Department, and Ngarasnan Rebeye, the Chadian ambassador to Cairo, attended the meeting, at which various aspects of and developments in the Chadian problem were discussed.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid and Ahmed Korom also discussed various areas of bilateral relations, within the context of Egypt's support for Chad and its contribution of technical expertise to promote Chad's reconstruction and to assist in several of its projects. The Chadian minister arrived in Cairo yesterday, bearing a message for President Husni Mubarak from Chadian President Hissein Habre.

Ministry Official: Botha's Reforms 'Cover Up' Attempt

NC141602 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Egypt is closely following the consultations which the seven member Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group is holding with the racist regime in South Africa. Ahmad Sidqi, head of the Foreign Ministry's African Department, has stated that the racist regime is continuing its endeavors to foil the current efforts to achieve a settlement in South Africa. In addition, the so-called reforms announced by the racist regime's president are merely an attempt to cover up Pretoria's practices and to prevent Namibia from attaining its independence in accordance with UN Resolution 435.

State of Emergency Declared at Cotton Plantations

NC141724 Paris AFP in English 1638 GMT 14 may 86

[Text] Cairo, May 14 (AFP) — Agriculture Minister Yusuf Wali has declared a state of emergency in cotton plantations throughout Egypt to enable the government to fight crop-threatening parasites, officials said here Wednesday. The officials said workers' weekly time off had been suspended and primary and secondary school pupils had been urged to take part in campaigns to eliminate the parasites. Some 50,000 teams had been outfitted with insecticides to check the spread of disease.

According to official figures, cotton accounts for six per cent of Egyptian exports. During the 1985-1986 period, production totalled 9.2 million quantars, against 7.9 million in 1984-85. A total of 2.79 million quantars (125,000 tonnes) was sold at the cotton exchange in Alexandria, with local mills using the remaining 6.5 million quantars.

The total area under cotton production for 1986-87 is expected to reach two million feddans (1.25 million acres) with production estimated at 10 million quantars, leaving an export margin of 3.5 to 3.6 million quantars. In 1984-1985, some 3.1 million quantars (140,000 tonnes) were exported for a total value of more than 300 million dollars. In 1983-1984, exports totalled 3.3 million quantars.

Relations With Sudan Facing 'Unprecedented Tension'

PM141424 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 22 Apr 86 p 10

[Majdi Sarhan dispatch from Sudan: "Strong Libyan Presence in Sudan Prevents Building Bridges Between Cairo and Khartoum; Egyptian Students in Sudan Pay the Price of U.S. Aggression Against Libya"]

[Excerpts] It has become certain here in Khartoum that Egyptian-Sudanese relations will be the first challenge the new Sudanese Government will face. All signs indicate that these historical and strong relations will in the near future experience unprecedented tension, particularly under a Sudanese Government led by Sadiq al-Mahdi and assuming a new political structure that includes many trends that have their strong reservations about Egyptian-Sudanese relations, especially the agreements concluded between Egypt and Sudan, both old and recent. Foremost among these agreements are the Nile waters agreement and the integration agreement. The Egyptian Government realized, with the approach of the recent Sudanese elections, that these elections will decide the future of Egyptian-Sudanese relations. The Democratic Unionist Party is the only Sudanese party that has stuck to its principle — that Sudan's relations with Egypt form a unity between the two peoples of the Nile valley dictated by the natural extension of economic, political, social, and strategic interests. Leaders of this party were the only political leaders to visit Egypt before the recent elections, which confirms the Egyptian leadership's support for this party.

One of the most important issues that will directly affect Egyptian-Sudanese relations is the coming to power in Sudan of the Al-Ummah Party and its leader Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, the improvement of Sudanese-Libyan relations and Al-Qadhdhafi's role in supporting certain political powers in Sudan during the recent elections, the recent U.S. aggression against Libya and the exploitation by Al-Qadhdhafi's allies in Sudan of the aggression in an attempt to ruin the relations between Egypt and Sudan, the question of integration, and finally the presence of deposed president Ja'far al-Numayri in Cairo and the demand by the Sudanese political forces for his extradition to Sudan in order to face trial. In our evaluation and appraisal of the future of Egyptian-Sudanese relations we must not overlook the visit which Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi was supposed to make to Cairo during the last few days of the elections as part of his tour of some Arab countries and the circumstances and implications involving the postponment of the visit twice. Observers and political leaders in Sudan believe that Al-Mahdi's visit to Egypt was probably postponed following contact between the Egyptian leadership and the leadership of the Democratic Unionist Party, Egypt's strong Sudanese ally, which expressed the view that Al-Mahdi's visit would strengthen his standing in the elections. Nevertheless, the reasons for postponing this visit remain conflicting and incomprehensible. The Egyptian leadership announced that the postponment was at the request of Al-Mahdi himself after everything had been prepared for the visit. Egyptian Ambassador in Khartoum Hasan 'Abbas Mushrifah stresses that the first time the visit was postponed at the request of the teaching faculty at Cairo University, Al-Mahdi was supposed to deliver a lecture, after the visit's itinerary had become entangled. [as published]

Thus the two sides gave conflicting reasons for the postponment or cancelation of the visit. But the question remains regarding the real reasons for postponing Al-Mahdi's visit to Cairo on 8 April. Was the postponment of the visit the second time Al-Mahdi's answer to the Egyptian side's request to postpone the visit the first time?

We will now move to the other issue that will directly influence the future of the Sudanese-Egyptian relations, namely the remarkable improvement in Sudanese-Libyan relations and Al-Qadhdhafi's penetration of the Sudanese political forces' ranks to the extent that he has acquired strong allies in Sudan in whom he was able to fire the spirit of hatred for Egypt and the Egyptian people. The forces concerned here are some of those new trends that emerged under different names following the Rajab [April] uprising, such as the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, the Sudanese Communist Party, the small Sudanese Nasirite-oriented parties, and the revolutionary committees that include a considerable number of university students. These allies have revealed their true intentions toward Egyptian-Sudanese relations following the recent U.S. raid on Libya. Some of these did not hesitate to reiterate and to stress that Egypt played a role in these raids for they consider Egypt the biggest U.S. ally in the Arab area. And since the United States is their enemy then Egypt is their enemy too. It was then that groups of those who support this idea marched to the Egyptian consulate in Khartoum following the day the news of the raid on Libya broke. These groups shouted anti-Egyptian slogans. The Egyptian students in Sudan were not spared the manhandling and anger of Al-Qadhdhafi's allies. They were beaten and suffered injuries inside the college premises and even in their homes.

At the level of the major Sudanese parties we find that they have reservations regarding Egyptian-Sudanese relations being influenced by the improvement in Sudanese-Libyan relations.

The Al-Ummah Party believes, as its Secretary General 'Amir Nur al-Dayim puts it, that Egypt must view its relations with Libya objectively and that the new Sudanese leadership must seek to remove the bitterness and problems between Egypt and Libya while maintaining and developing Sudanese-Libyan relations. The Sudanese people will not forget Libya's firm and clear stand with them during their predicament. For its part the Democratic Unionist Party has declared its desire to develop Sudanese-libyan relations. As for Dr Hasan al-Turabi, Secretary General of the Islamic Front — the Muslim Brotherhood — he believes that the future of Egyptian-Sudanese relations depends on the Egyptian Government changing its present stand to an Arab stand on which the future of the Egyptian-Sudanese stands on the Middle East problem and African problems depend.

Next comes the question of integration in determining the framework of Sudanese-Egyptian relations. All the political forces in Sudan have reservations regarding these relations to the point that the Sudanese leadership during its transitional role was prompted to announce the freezing and reviewing of the integration agreement. In this regard Sudanese Information Minister Muhammad Hamid al-Bashir said that the Sudanese trend is toward evaluating the integration agreement and rectifying its course and not to cancel it.

Finally comes the problem of former president Ja'far al-Numayri's presence in Cairo and the Egyptian leadership's insistence on keeping him and giving excuses for not responding to the demand to extradite him to Sudan. This issue is at the forefront of the factors that would determine the future of Egyptian-Sudanese relations. In the past few days several fingers were pointed at the deposed president accusing him of using his residence in Cairo as a center for leading and hatching conspiracies aimed at crushing the uprising and returning to power. Thus the the problem of Al-Numayri's presence in Egypt is casting its shadow on the future of Egyptian-Sudanese relations. The possiblity that an official request will be made to the Egyptian Government by the new Sudanese Government to extradite Al-Numayri will remain a possibility. The party leaders still insist that Al-Numayri is politically active in Egypt. In a statement to *AL-WAFD*, the Al-Ummah Party secretary general said that the contacts which Al-Numayri is carrying out with the leaders of the May regime are causing concern to the Sudanese people, who feel that Al-Numayri is still being given total protection by the Egyptian Government in carrying out activities which, although they may not pose a threat to the democratic system in Sudan, are an indication of ill intentions. Now what will Egypt's stand be if it is officially asked to extradite Al-Numayri and what if Egypt refuses to extradite him? The coming days will provide the answer to these two questions.

Daily Says Arab Fighters To Join in Al-Faw Battle

GF141626 Manama WAKH in English 1600 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Baghdad, 14 May (WAKH) — Fighters from eight Arab countries will leave for southern Iraq to participate in the fighting against Iranian troops in Al-Faw, it was said here today.

Iraqi daily *AL-THAWRAH* said that fighters from Egypt, Sudan, Syria, Palestine, Jordan, Somalia, Morocco, Tunisia, and Eritrea are currently receiving intensified training on various arms.

The paper did not mention the number of the fighters.

Communique No 2,226 Issued on 13-14 May Operations

JN141701 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1608 GMT 14 May 86

[Communique No 2,226 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 14 May 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. It is another day of God-blessed victory recorded in our bright history by the vigor of our men. The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. The Khomeyniite scoundrels are hopelessly trying to find a way out of the defeat surrounding them. The hopeless enemy last night tried to attack our forward positions in the areas which the heroic IV Army Corps seized with the vigor and bravery of its men. The enemy sent a brigade from its 19th Division composed of five regiments of charlatan Khomeyni's guards backed by tanks and artillery. The men of the heroic IV Army Corps lay in wait for the enemy, and as soon as the enemy forces were within range, they opened their merciless fire on them. The enemy forces were crushed and their bodies littered the valleys. Only those who fled or surrendered were saved. In an attempt to save their situation, the enemy sent two companies. Their fate was no better than that of the brigade. They were completely routed. Confirmed enemy losses are 780 dead and scores of prisoners. Six enemy tanks, an armored personnel carrier, seven vehicles of different types, and seven ammunition dumps were destroyed. Our force also seized large quantities of arms, including a usable Chieftain tank. God bless the soldiers of the heroic IV Army Corps — commanders, officers, and men. Praised be God for His victory.

2. The Army's helicopter gunships are Iraq's pride. The courage and bravery of the helicopter pilots reinforces our country's victory over its renegade enemies. The heroes of the helicopter gunships had a great day today supporting our ground forces while they were liberating national soil. They inflicted on the criminal enemy heavy losses in personnel and equipment. They were the epitome of courage and loyalty. Having carried out 135 brave combat missions, the pilots returned to their bases safely in God's care.

3. Our Air Force continued its heroic activities today, giving splendid support to the ground forces of the V Army Corps while they were liberating our proud mountain peaks. They also inflicted heavy losses on the enemy in other operational theaters during 101 combat missions. Having carried out their duty courageously as usual, our brave eagles returned to their bases with their planes safely in God's care.

4. One of our units in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris raided enemy positions on the opposite side. The unit clashed with the scoundrels who were using gunboats and rafts. Using various types of weapons and backed by heavy artillery fire, the unit succeeded in destroying four boats and three rafts, killing all their occupants, and setting two ammunition dumps on fire. The unit returned safely to its base.

5. A brave patrol which was on duty in the no-man's land in front of our positions in the V Army Corps northern sector succeeded in seizing five 120-mm mortars and two radio communication sets. The patrol returned safely to its base, God be praised.

6. The following was achieved in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah: five enemy personnel were killed; and one infantry position, one vehicle, one ammunition dump, and two observation posts were destroyed.

7. The forces of charlatanry and buffoonery shelled the suburbs of Khanaqin and Khurmal with long-range artillery. Two civilians were injured in Khurmal.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 14 May 1986

Royal Decree Approves House Electoral Law

JN150652 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 15 May 86 p 1

[Text] Amman — *SAWT AL-SHA'B* — A royal decree has been issued approving the House of Representatives' electoral law for 1986 which was recently approved by the House of Representatives and the Senate.

SAWT AL-SHA'B has learned that the royal decree approving the law will be published in the official *GAZETTE* on 17 May.

Interior Ministry Announces Deaths in Student Riots

JN151247 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 15 May 86

[Text] An official spokesman of the Ministry of Interior has stated the following: During the past 2 years, the Yarmuk University campus has been the scene of several student demonstrations and riots. During this period, the university has done its best through dialogue and discussion to tackle this situation. However, the university has noted that the agitators of those student disturbances was always the same student group which consists of not more than a few scores of students. This group managed to organize a demonstration against the university's decision to charge Engineering College students fees for practical training. Although the university administration later reduced these fees to 15 dinars, the sabotage group continued to instigate student demonstrations, using all kinds of reasons and excuses, and disturbing classes at the university. Thus, the University Council was compelled to make a decision on 3 May 1986, in accordance with the university's law and regulations, to dismiss 32 students from different semesters as of the beginning of the summer holiday and after the exams at the end of the current semester so students would not waste this semester. All this was done to preserve the university's educational process in a positive and stable atmosphere, thereby enabling the students to continue their studies in a calm university atmosphere away from anarchy and chaos.

On the morning of Tuesday, 13 May 1986, the university administration observed that certain student elements were distributing copies of a statement to the students and at the same time instigating them to regroup on the university campus. Later, several hundred students staged a demonstration and a group of these students tried to attack university employees. A member of the university administration was injured and admitted to the hospital. The university administration was thus compelled to request the assistance of the security organs in the city of Irbid. Police took up position outside the university walls to prevent suspect elements from infiltrating student circles and exploiting this incident for other purposes.

The students continued to gather and demonstrate. They staged sit-ins in some of the university buildings in order to continue the demonstrations, chaos, and sabotage acts until the following morning, Wednesday 14 May 1986. On that day, they stormed one of the exam halls, tore up exam papers, attacked several professors and students, and forced students taking exams to leave the exam halls. Throughout yesterday, Wednesday, the student demonstrators continued their riots and acts of sabotage inside the university campus. They broke doors, smashed windows, and tampered with all the university property they could lay hands on.

In the meantime, the university administration sought the help of a number of official and public figures in the city and the governorate in order to persuade the students to stop the rioting, chaos, and sabotage acts and leave the university campus. The dialigue with the students continued until late last night. However, the students refused to respond to all the attempts that were made. When the rioting and sabotage acts increased, the university administration requested, at the behest of a large number of professors and students, the intervention of the police to end the riots and chaos and to restore peace and order to the university campus.

The police entered the university campus at 0015 without carrying any weapons. They requested that the demonstrators leave the university campus. The student demonstrators confronted the police and attacked them with stones and empty bottles. Two police officers and 16 policemen sustained various injuries and were admitted to the hospital for treatment. Due to stampedes and attacks with stones and empty bottles and also as a result of the clash that took place, two female students, Maha Muhammad Qasim and Marwah Tahir al-Shaykh, and one male student, Ibrahim Muhammad Mahmud Hammad, died and several others sustained slight injuries. They were treated and later discharged from hospital. The police succeeded in controlling the situation and restoring peace and order to the university campus. Several student agitators were apprehended and are now under interrogation.

The official spokesman expressed regret over the riots and sabotage acts to which Yarmuk University was exposed at the hand of a sabotage group which has harmed the university and society in general and which has led to these regrettable results, whose responsibility is borne by that misled sabotage group.

The official spokesman of the Ministry of Interior affirmed that no individual or faction will be permitted to tamper with the kingdom's security and stability or to expose its institutions and accomplishments to sabotage and harm. The most severe measures will be taken against anyone who tries to tamper with the security of the homeland and the safety of the citizens.

French, U.S. Hostages 'To Pay' for Pressure on Syria

NC150758 Paris AFP in English 0753 GMT 15 May 86

[Text] Beirut, May 15 (AFP) — A caller claiming affiliation with the Islamic Jihad group warned on Thursday that French and American hostages in Lebanon would be "the first to pay" for pressure on Syria for their release. The caller said some hostages had already been killed, but gave no details.

In a telephone call to a foreign news agency here, the caller said "all countries, whether American, French or Arab" must cease "their pressure on Syria and on our organization," the Islamic Jihad.

The U.S. Government on Wednesday confirmed reports that Syria was trying to secure the release of Western hostages held in Lebanon. "The Syrian Government obviously has influence in this matter," said a White House statement. The U.S. also announced on Wednesday that Syria was involved in a major military buildup in Lebanon.

The Thursday statement in Islamic Jihad's name said "the first who will pay (for pressure on Syria) will be the hostages we are holding, whose number has largely diminished... because we have executed some of them." The caller refused to say how many hostages remained.

The call, which could not be identified, began with the words, "God is all powerful and merciful," followed by a verse from the Koran. Islamic Jihad announced in a typewritten statement last March 10 that only written claims concerning French hostages it was holding — accompanied by photographs of the hostages — should be taken as authentic.

The caller said that Islamic Jihad was aware of "pressures" by the United States, France and "two Arab countries" on Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to help get the hostages freed. He warned all parties involved" that "the earth will tremble below them" if they did not stop "these manoeuvres" against Syria and Islamic Jihad.

"We will again use our destructive methods," the caller said. The group has claimed responsibility for the kidnaps of five Americans and four Frenchmen. It has in the past months announced the killings of two hostages, U.S. diplomat William Buckley and French sociologist Michel Seurat, but their bodies have not been found.

Syria Warned Against Mediation

NC151005 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 15 May 86

[Text] AFP reports that a caller claiming to represent the Islamic Jihad organization has phoned a foreign news agency in Beirut, warning that the U.S. and French hostages will be the first to pay for the pressure that the United States, France, and certain Arab states are bringing to bear on Syria and the Islamic Jihad in an attempt to ensure the hostages' release.

The caller warned Syria against making any efforts to secure the release of the hostages. He added: Despite our respect for Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, we warn against any efforts to bring about the release of the U.S. and French hostages. We also warn against any charges of Hizballah involvement in the kidnappings. The caller further added that the number of U.S. and French hostages who are still alive has largely diminished. The caller, however, declined to reveal the number.

Further on Security Threats to Austrian Embassy

Envoy To Leave

NC140904 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] According to diplomatic sources, the Austrian ambassador to Lebanon has decided to leave Beirut today after having received repeated threats from Firas, the official in charge of the Amal Movement's security apparatus. The sources said that the ambassador will submit a report to his government in Vienna requesting that the Austrian Embassy in West Beirut be closed.

Amal gunmen attempted to kidnap the Austrian ambassador a few days ago. This prompted Minister Nabih Birri to declare that he was responsible for protection of both the ambassador and the premises of the Austrian diplomatic mission. He then assigned this task to Firas.

Diplomats Leave Embassy

NC141445 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1315 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] The Austrian Embassy in Lebanon is now empty of diplomats following the departure yesterday [as heard] of the Austrian ambassador and charge d'affaires for 15 days.

Gunmen Occupy Senegalese Embassy in West Beirut

NC141132 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 14 May 86

[Excerpt] Fu'ad al-Turk, secretary general of the Foreign Ministry, received Antoine 'Aqiqi, the Senegalese Consul in Lebanon, at 1030 this morning. 'Aqiqi informed him that gunmen had occupied the Senegalese Embassy in Corniche al-Mazra'ah in West Beirut, which constituted an attack against the property of the Senegalese state. The consul demanded that the appropriate people work to vacate the embassy.

USSR Says Lebanese Solution Requires 'Unanimity'

NC150719 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 15 May 86

[Text] The Soviet Union has emphasized that Lebanon's internal problems can only be solved politically if there is national unanimity among the Lebanese and respect for Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity. Achieving this objective through either a tripartite or some other agreement is a matter which concerns the Lebanese alone, the Soviet Union declared. Soviet

Foreign Ministry spokesman Vladimir Lomeyko made these remarks in an interview with the *AL-SAFIR* newspaper. The Soviet official accused the United States of seeking to fan the fire of regional disputes, bringing them to the brink of war.

Birri Returns, Visits Karami in Hospital
NC141619 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Nabih Birri, minister of state for the south and reconstruction affairs, today visited the American University hospital to inquire about the health of the prime minister. Minister Birri returned from Damascus today following a series of meetings there with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, leaders of the Palestinian National Salvation Front, a number of Lebanese nationalist leaders, and other Syrian officials.

Al-Huss Declares Education Ministry Strike 15 May
NC140922 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Education Minister Dr Salim al-Huss has issued a decision suspending work at the Education Ministry on Thursday in protest over attacks on the American University and other educational institutions. In a statement on the issue, Dr Al-Huss said: I am compelled to declare this action with regret. The educational sector is heading for an inevitable collapse unless a rapid and final end is put to the daily incidents affecting it in West Beirut. Since the Education Ministry is responsible for the educational sector, and has no function without it, it regards itself as directly affected by what is happening.

Dr Al-Huss added: As education minister, I cannot remain silent and do nothing while the future of an entire generation of our youth and of our society as a whole is collapsing.

Paqraduni Discusses Dialogue With Damascus
NC140836 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Karim Paqraduni, deputy chairman of the Lebanese Forces Executive Committee, has affirmed that the Lebanese Forces are prepared to engage in dialogue with Damascus, but not while under artillery fire. Damascus must declare a truce, he said, and permit an intra-Lebanese dialogue to take place. He added: Our plan for a solution is a Lebanese one and not exclusively Christian. We seek to establish a front that will include both Christians and Muslims. The Lebanese Forces, he explained, do not want a solution achieved without Syrian involvement. Syria can provide part of the solution, but not all of it. Therefore, others must also be involved. He pointed out that the differences with Syria are due basically to the Syrian forces' illegitimate presence in Lebanon.

Referring to the tripartite agreement, Paqraduni declared that there are three basic points within it that detract from Lebanon's exercise of its sovereignty. He disclosed that the Lebanese Forces have rejected Syria's request that the term of office for the president of the republic be shortened as a prerequisite to the resumption of dialogue.

Paqraduni maintained that the farther the displacement of the Christians is allowed to go, the more successful is the partition scheme, for the Christians are the unifying element in Lebanon, being spread all over the country, from north to south and from the sea to the Al-Biqa' valley. Finally, Paqraduni affirmed that an independent Christian force is the best and most basic guarantee of Lebanon's defense.

Resistance Fighters Attack Lahd Militia Targets
NC140931 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] National resistance fighters carried out a number of operations this morning against the occupation forces' agents. First, resistance fighters detonated an explosive charge as a Lahd militia patrol was traveling on the Rshaf road. A troop carrier was destroyed as a result, and those in it were either killed or wounded. Resistance fighters also shelled a militia position on Jabal Basil with over 20 mortar rounds. Fire was seen rising from the position. Finally, resistance fighters attacked a Lahd militia position on Jabal Safi with katyusha rockets, which scored direct hits.

Hizballah Rejects Ba'th Party Official Accusations
JN141847 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] There have been clashes recently in the Al-Biqa' area between between Hizballah and the Ba'th Party organization in Lebanon. More details from Nabil Darwish:

[Begin recording] Hizballah rejected the accusations leveled by 'Asim Qansuh, secretary general of the Ba'th Party organization in Lebanon, against the Islamic current which he held responsible for the deteriorating security situation in West Beirut. Hizballah distributed a statement to newspapers today which says that the statements made by 'Asim Qansuh holding the Muslims responsible for the lack of security in Beirut and Lebanon are hasty. Last Sunday, Qansuh announced in a dinner banquet that the forces which claim to be Christian or Muslim are behind the lack of security in Beirut in particular. Qansuh condemned the attacks on the American University of Beirut and the kidnapping of foreigners and Christians in West Beirut. He wondered if this is the Islamic understanding of security.

According to a responsible Hizballah source, the Islamic current is not responsible at all for the lack of security. The source said that those who are really responsible are the parties who fear threats along the red lines drawn by international forces. The Hizballah statement adds that the opportunists, the ineffectual national leaders, and those who ran in the face of the Israeli invaders and made compromises with the Phalangist regime of President Amin al-Jumayyil are really responsible for this situation and not the Muslims who fought the Israelis. The statement concludes: The hour of truth has drawn nearer with the approach of a U.S.-Zionist aggression against Syria and

Lebanon. It is noteworthy that clashes erupted in Ba'labakk, in the Al-Biqa' plain, between the Syrian forces and the Hizballah militias between 2 and 7 May. Quoting an informed Lebanese source, AFP said that the Syrian forces had increased pressure on Hizballah. [end recording]

U.S. Spokesman's Statements on Terrorism Cited

JN141844 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Larry Speakes, U.S. White House spokesman, announced today that the U.S. Administration does not have any evidence that Syria is involved in the so-called international terrorism. REUTER quotes Speakes, who was commenting on a U.S. television report on Syria's help to release the hostages in Lebanon, as saying that the United States does not have any independent or decisive proof that Syria participated in recent terrorism in Britain and the FRG. Speakes' admissions come as a refutation of U.S. and Zionist propaganda, which claims that Syria supports terrorism and is aimed at carrying out an aggression against Syria following U.S. aggression against Libya on the same pretext.

Commentaries Evaluate Israel's Peres Remarks

Damascus Radio Reacts

JN141418 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 14 May 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres made a statement to Israeli media yesterday in which he said that there is no chance of reaching a political settlement with Syria as long as President Hafiz al-Asad rules this Arab country. In order to understand this statement we should remember that there is a big difference between the Israeli rulers' understanding of peace and the understanding of the international community, represented by the United Nations, of peace in the Middle East.

Israeli rulers talk about a peace in which Israel is allowed to occupy and annex Arab territory and to annul the Palestinian people's national rights, including their right to self-determination and to establish their national state on their soil. Israeli rulers understand peace as Arab capitulation to Israeli plans aimed at establishing a greater Israel extending from the Nile to the Euphrates and at opening the entire region up to Israeli military, economic, and cultural hegemony within the framework of a U.S. policy of hegemony over the whole world.

This Israeli understanding of peace is unique [words indistinct]. No genuine peace can be established on the grounds of this Israeli understanding. Anybody who accepts this understanding will agree to abandon the UN Charter, international law, and human rights as well as create wars and armed conflicts for the coming generations. This is because people cannot accept occupation or seizure of rights and cannot remain silent in the face of injustice.

If Israel really wants peace, what prevents it from announcing its agreement with the UN resolutions calling for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all Arab territories occupied by force as well as the realization of the Palestinian people's national rights? If Israel wants to take advantage of peace opportunities, why is it rejecting the international conference called for by the United Nations to establish peace in the Middle East with the participation of all parties concerned and the two superpowers, the United States and the USSR?

The Israeli rulers' misuse of peace cannot do away with the fact that the main obstacle to peace in the Middle East is the Israeli rulers' insistence on occupying and seizing other people's territory by force, seizing the Palestinian people's national rights, and working continuously to establish a greater Israel from the Nile to the Euphrates. The Israeli rulers' many statements on peace cannot hide from world public opinion that the strategic alliance between Israel and the United States is responsible for the high tension in the region as well as the dangers of large conflicts that may be produced by this tension.

The Israeli understanding of peace is rejected by Syria — the people, the government, the party, and the leader — as well as by the Arab masses and all those who are concerned about peace, truth, and justice in the world. No force in the world can make Syria relinquish Arab territory and rights or accept Israeli occupation of Arab territory and the Israeli seizure of the Palestinian people's national rights.

Leader Hafiz al-Asad, who abides by the UN principles and resolutions as well as by just peace and who rejects capitulation to imperialist and Zionist aggression and hegemony, will find at his side the Arab masses and the nation's national, pan-Arab, and progressive forces. On the opposite front, Al-Asad will find imperialism, Zionism, and all those who violate the law and disregard UN principles and resolutions.

Syria seeks a just and comprehensive peace that is based on Israel's withdrawal from all Arab territory occupied in 1967 and the recognition of the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights. Syria believes that the way to this peace is the international conference called for by the United Nations. Syria says yes to peace but at the same time says no to capitulation.

AL-BA'TH Comments

JN150800 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 15 May 86

[From the press review]

[Text] The campaign of threats to launch aggression against Syria continues unabated, causing concern on Arab and international levels. Western circles affirm the Washington-Tel Aviv coordination in this regard. Imperialist and Zionist threats to Syria were not prompted by alleged Syrian involvement in so-called international terrorism, as Washington and Tel Aviv claim. This is merely a cover to hide the truth that enemy Prime Minister Shim'on Peres revealed recently. Peres said that these threats are prompted by Syria's rejection, or President al-Asad's rejection, of the U.S. and Israeli settlement plans in the region.

The problem, as Peres himself says, is that Syria does not compromise or accept deals. Israel's endeavors concerning a deal over the Golan heights, security arrangements, or any formula to revive Camp David were completely rejected by Damascus.

In an editorial on this subject today, *AL-BA'TH* says: The Arab masses are convinced that President Hafiz al-Asad's policy

is aimed at liberating all the occupied Arab territories and restoring the usurped Arab rights in the short run and at realizing unity, freedom, and socialism and building a united Arab socialist society in the long run. Therefore, the Arab masses are adhering to this policy and are rallying behind its maker, finding it an embodiment of their aspirations and an honest expression of the correct Arab stand and the required practical Arab policy. The Arab masses consider this policy to be the result of genuine, enlightened planning that takes into account the dimensions of the Zionist plots which are aimed at establishing greater Israel in the Arab homeland.

The presence of Al-Asad at the helm of the Arab struggle is the firm guarantee to maintain the struggle of the Arab masses and affirm their adherence to the pan-Arab aims and to the Arab nation's rights and sovereignty. *AL-BA'TH* notes that we seek firm, just peace that would end the occupation, restore Arab rights, and fulfill the U.N. Charter and resolutions. As for capitulation, which means opening the doors for Israel and the United States and repeating the treasonous lull during which Al-Sadat defected to the enemy camp, it is rejected outright; it is unacceptable now and in the future.

If the situation as Peres summed it up is caused by the Arab rejection stand, which is led by struggler Hafiz al-Asad, then Syria is proud of this stand, which aborted all plots and halted the march of capitulation.

Concluding, *AL-BA'TH* says: No matter how worried or fed up Peres or his Washington allies might be, they must know that this historic stand, which President Hafiz al-Asad has created with patience and perseverance, has become the fate of the Arab masses which cannot be abandoned. We are proud of this stand. We are proud of our leader and of his policy and wisdom. Our Arab masses regard this leadership as a strong bastion for their aims and a certain guarantee for their future and destiny.

Al-Ahmar Assails U.S. Policy, Aggression

JN111703 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] [Text] Damascus — The second scientific-political seminarorganized by the magazine *AL-NAHJ* opened at noon today under the slogan: "The U.S. Aggression Against Libya, Threatening Syria With Aggression, and Their Effect on the Situation in the Middle East and the Mediterranean Basin as Well as Their Grave Consequences on Peace and Security in the World."

Attending the opening ceremony were Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party; a number of comrade members of the party's national and regional commands; members of the Progressive National Front Central Command in Syria; a number of ministers; and leaders of the Palestinian resistance factions. Also attending were representatives of the Lebanese national forces, the Arab national parties, the communist and workers parties of the socialist bloc countries, the progressive parties of some capitalist and developing countries, international organizations, and Arab trade unions.

Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Ba'th Party assistant secretary general, opened the seminar with a speech in which he conveyed the greetings of comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, Ba'th Party secretary general and president of the republic, to the brothers participating in the seminar. He welcomed them on behalf of the party's command to steadfast Syria, which is confronting aggression and schemes to dominate peoples. He said: Your meeting in Damascus expresses the unity and cohesion of the Arab and world liberation forces as well as their solidarity with Syria against the aggressive U.S. imperialist-Zionist policy. He added that the aggression against Libya and the threats to Syria constitute a link in the series of aggressions which imperialism is launching against our Arab nation and its central cause.

Comrade al-Ahmar told the participants in the seminar that the U.S. Administration and its allies are now trying to bring the world back to the logic of old colonialism — the logic of invasion, aggression, and hegemony — as well as the policy of systematic intimidation and terrorism against peoples who strive to lead independent lives, choose their way of life themselves, and safeguard their independence. Comrade al-Ahmar pointed out that the peoples who were liberated from injustice and slavery and who made their way defending themselves and their independence do not fear pressures and will not be terrorized and intimidated by threats.

Al-Ahmar added that the U.S. Administration views Syria as an obstacle to its policy and schemes in the region. He said that Syria adheres to its principles and is determined to confront the aggression and all schemes againt the Arab nation's struggle with the aim of defending the Syrian people's freedom and the Arab nation's rights.

Al-Ahmar said that Syria will not stand alone in confronting the aggression and threats because the Arab masses and the forces of peace and socialism, headed by the Soviet Union, stand alongside Syria. He explained that on the pretext of combating terrorism, the United States pursues a systematic state terrorism against peoples who struggle for their just causes. Moreover, he said, the United States provides support and protection for Israel's terrorism and aggression against the Arab nation despite the fact that the United States has special responsibilities, dictated by its status as a superpower, to protect world peace.

At the end of his speech, Comrade al-Ahmar thanked the magazine *AL-NAHJ* for this initiative and wished the participants in the seminar success in attaining their objectives.

Peres Discusses Issues in Independence Day Interviews

Syrian Terrorist Involvement Viewed

TA141045 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0805 GMT 14 May 86

[Interview with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres by correspondents Shim'on Schiffer and 'Oded Ben-'Ami, date and place not given; recorded]

[Excerpt] [Schiffer] Mr Prime Minister, on this 38th independence day of Israel, is there any room for satisfaction regarding Israel's political and security situation?

[Peres] I think there is room both for satisfaction and concern. First, my feeling on this day is that, after all, we have 3 and 1/2 million Jews here, and this is a great thing. I wish we had more, but I remember David Ben-Gurion during Israel's first Independence Day; his dream was to have 1 or 2 million Jews here. To have 3 and 1/2 million Jews here is a great thing. Second, I think the fact there is no war in Lebanon, to wake up in the morning and not to see the headlines on the casualties, the great price we paid, I think this is a very great thing. I believe that there has been a great improvement in Israel's international position. It looks different today. Take, for example, the fight against terrorism: Had it taken place 2 years ago the conventional forces [as heard] would have accused Israel. Today, Israel is not being blamed. There is a very serious struggle against international terrorism, and we do not have a place of honor in it, and I do not regret it. There are negotiations with Egypt, difficult negotiations; and despite the fact that there are ups and downs in our relations with Jordan, I have not given up on them. These are the positive things in my opinion: There is no war, there are negotiations, the style is more moderate — certainly on our side, but to some extent also on the Arab side.

What I am concerned about is that if we do not pursue the peace initiative, then all of a sudden all of the rage which is latent in the Middle East, if I can use this expression, may break out. We do not have normal relationships such as those which exist in Europe, for example. Relationships here still conceal a great deal of rage, and in a region in which the balance between the military and social powers is against the latter and in favor of the former — I am speaking of the Arab states...[changes thought] The situation here is that the weapons are modern whereas the considerations are old-fashioned, and this combination is what gives me great concern.

[Ben-'Ami] Mr Prime Minister, at the end of our 37th Independence Day the spotlight is on the tension, which is perhaps only imaginary, with Syria. You yourself distinguished between Syria's involvement in international terrorism and between war threats against Israel. We want to know what are the facts we have regarding Syria's real involvement in the attempted attack on the El Al plane in London, and in international terrorism generally?

[Peres] First, the very fact that three Syrian diplomats have been expelled from London proves that the British Government believes there was a link between the Syrian Embassy in London and between those who tried to attack the El Al plane. As you know, the British are very moderate and reasonable, and if they took such a far-reaching step this amounts to public admission of such a link.

[Schiffer] Doesn't this oblige Israel to issue unequivocal, clear statements on the issue?

[Peres] Yes, certainly. However, I would again like to suggest that the Israeli voice be only one of many voices. If we come out before everybody else with the loudest voice then we will save others the need to express their own opinions.

[Schiffer] However, the Syrians planned to attack an El Al plane?

[Peres] Today an attack on any plane, whether El Al or not, is considered to be a strike at the freedom of international air routes. This is an extremely grave thing, and it does not matter if it takes a little longer for the United States and Europe to become convinced that there are clear Syrian fingerprints here. Generally speaking, however, the free world is becoming more and more aware of Syria's central role in terrorism. All the active terror organizations, those of Hawatimah, Jibril, Habash, Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna], Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], are either on Syrian territory or under Syrian control. The Syrians are now trying to extricate themselves from this situation by saying that they are against international terrorism but in favor of so called freedom actions. I think this is the right opportunity for us not to make this distinction which the Syrians are trying to make, in other words, to regard Syria as a country which has to take a stand on terrorism, on which side of terrorism it stands, the side which harbors terrorists, helps them and justifies them, or the side which publicly condemns terrorism. The problem here is not only the El Al plane, apparently there is a connection, even if not completely proven, between Syrians and the attack on the La Belle nightclub in Berlin, West Germany. In my opinion we must wait for all this to become clearer, and then it will transpire that Syria, which is crafty and quiet, fulfills a role in terrorism which comes close to that fulfilled by Libya.

[Schiffer] Mr Prime Minister, I want to know what is taking place in the territory between Israel and Syria. We have heard that Israel, via the United States, has asked to inspect the Syrian dugouts in the Al-Biqa'. How do things stand now?

[Peres] Israel must decide what is more important: the issue of international terrorism, or the changes, the limited changes which have taken place in the Al-Biqa'. In my opinion, from the political and all other viewpoints, it is preferable to concentrate our attention on an issue which we have in common with many partners, and which gives us daily problems, rather than on an issue which, even though it gives us an uncomfortalbe feeling, is more of a long-term problem. If we do the two things together we will find that both are ineffective, and therefore I reiterate that we must concentrate all our attention on international terrorism, because this is the issue which causes daily problems, and this is also the issue on which we can recruit wide international cooperation.

[Ben-'Ami] In that case, sir, who do you think was behind the verbal escalation which caused all this tension? Is this related to the fact that it is spring which like autumn is a period of tension?

[Peres] No. Several things happened here. First, there is somebody who does this methodically, namely Mr 'Arafat himself. He issued communiques in all the Arab countries stating that Israel was about to attack the Lebanese refugee camps and was about to attack Syria. He had received information from the most qualified sources in Israel that we were about to attack, and gave them wide dissemination, not without evil intentions. He even gave the date for our attack, and when the date passed without any attack he came out with a new story: that the Soviets got involved and prevented our attack. This is completely and utterly false, but he spread these stories methodically and we even received an appeal from an Arab state: In the name of God, do not attack the refugee camps, do not do it. All this was completely false.

[Schiffer] Was this country Egypt?

[Peres] I could have named the country, but did not. Now, in addition to this we had the London affair, which was extremely grave, and we also had the affair in Berlin. These three things together raised the tension.

[Schiffer] Mr Prime Minister, regarding the issue of political arrangements, do you believe that Syria is a lost cause, have you made any attempts to reach some kind of dialogue with President Al-Asad in the last year, or is there no chance?

[Peres] We have made indirect efforts to reach a dialogue with the Syrians at two different levels: That is, on the local and limited level, in the area of the Golan Heights and Lebanon; and on the higher level of comprehensive negotiations. On the issue of comprehensive negotiations we immediately received a negative answer; on the issue of negotiations limited to a certain area the Syrians initially wavered, but then rejected us. However, you know that we always concentrate on our own problems, and we have enough problems to prevent us from seeing the problems that others have. I do not think that the Syrians are in an excellent position. Were I a Syrian, or better yet, a Syrian journalist, I would analyse the situation in Syria as following: The economic situation is absolutely disastrous; their foreign currency reserves are next to zero; agricultural exports have decreased; the Gross National Product has dropped by 10 percent during the last year; the aid they receive comes mainly from Saudi Arabia, and also from Iran. There is tension with Iran against the background of Hizballah in Lebanon. We see that the economic situation is extremely difficult; they have restricted the use of electricity, the purchase of foreign currency. I think this is also a cause for internal dissatisfaction, and I would not be surprised if terror attacks within Syria stem also from dissatisfaction in the economic sphere.

[Schiffer] And what are your conclusions? Please continue.

[Peres] Their success in Lebanon is not all that great. You know, we are impressed by Al-Asad. I think that Al-Asad has many admirers in Israel, but on what do they base their admiration? He entered Lebanon and inherited a miserable situation from us. The only thing that changed was the party suffering from the situation; the situation itself has not changed: civil war, car bombs, terrorism, deception, conflict. Where does all this lead? The attack on Libya also alarmed him, I am convinced of this, first, by the very fact that it could be done, second, by the fact that it was done for a specific reason, such as international terrorism, and third, by the fact that there are limitations to Soviet involvement and Soviet technology. Now if you look at this picture, well, I do not know what will happen in Syria. What I am clear about — although I suggest that we keep our minds and thoughts open and not bind ourselves to a certain idea — is that Al-Asad is the most ambitious Arab leader, and this ambition is tempered by patience. I do not think he is fighting for the Golan Heights or for peace. His war is to be the leader of the Arab world, whether by conquest, intrigue, or politics. Under these conditions the chance of reaching a dialogue with Al-Asad seems to me to be minimal if not nil.

Where can we achieve something? Well, while he is an extremist in terms of strategy, he is more moderate in terms of tactics. Up to now he maintained these tactics. So we can reach tactical arrangements with him, like we did in the Golan Heights, and just as there has been some kind of an arrangement in Lebanon, a quiet and unwritten arrangement. Beyond this, unfortunately, I do not see any real chances.

[Ben-'Ami] Mr prime minister, let us take leave of President al-Asad for the time being and turn to Jordan. You have recently spoke of quiet understandings with Jordan. This is what was said following a Cabinet session. Can you tell us the nature of these understandings?

[Peres] Yes. First of all, they are not secret. We told the Jordanians that we agree to hold negotiations with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, and this is an understanding. You know that out of the five names proposed by them we have accepted two. Second, the Jordanians have insisted on an international forum, and we accepted this. Third, they insisted that negotiations be based on [UN Resolutions] 242 and 338, and we accepted this. These are important understandings. I can add a fourth understanding: that both they and we have agreed that the Americans be mediators in the attempt to reach a dialogue. Lastly, and I am not saying it is an understanding between us and them, but rather that it is an understanding on Jordan's part: Jordan is the first country which has seriously tried to involve 'Arafat in the negotiations, and they reached the conclusion, which was publicized, that this gentleman cannot be a partner to negotiations. Let me remind you that Al-Sadat at first also attempted to involve 'Arafat in the negotiations, and during the first meetings at the directors general level the PLO flag was on the table. The PLO was invited, but did not show up. The Jordanian conclusion that perhaps they should do it together with the PLO, but that they cannot do it with 'Arafat, is perhaps the outcome of Jordan's experience, but in my opinion it removes an obstacle that has always blocked any chance of future negotiations.

[Schiffer] Mr Prime Minister, your remarks express your long and sincere efforts to advance the process with Jordan, but when we sum up the situation, or at least to quote officials in the U.S. Administration, they say that the political process in our region is paralyzed. The question is: What more can be done? Do you have any idea that you want to try?

[Peres] I do not want to discuss this publicly and before the time is ripe. I know that when one is holding negotiations, and unfortunately also during wars, there are difficult situations, and then an alternative must be sought. I believe there is an alternative and I am convinced it must be tried. Concerning these sincere efforts, and I agree with you that those were sincere efforts on the part of Israel to open new avenues to peace, I think Israel has attained new and important international recognition. I do not think that I should be harsh in my words and unreasonable in my behavior. I prefer to be reasonable both in words and behavior.

[Schiffer] Are you willing to say what initiative is still possible in the near future.

[Peres] No.

[Ben-'Ami] Sir, with your permission let us turn to Egypt. It was recently reported that President Mubarak intends to sign bilateral agreements with you. However, the Tabah issue, for example, is in the deep-freeze, even though there have been reports that the talks by the directors general will renew. Where is all this leading; where are we heading in our relations with Egypt?

[Peres] Look, a new and time-consuming factor has entered into the Tabah issue, and this is the issue of legal consultation. Once you introduce legal consultation into a political process then the political process slowly loses its drive, and this is natural, because the lawyers on both sides want to make sure of every word, every comma, and rightly so.

[Ben-'Ami] And the politicians are not doing this?

[Peres] The politicians are being aided by the legal advisers. However, let me remind you of battles we waged, bitter battles which ended in unusual success, even though ultimately only God knows if we needed them. For example, we waged a fierce battle to protect our oil interests in the event our supply was cut off. In that case the United States undertook to supply us. Perhaps this was good and our efforts were correct, but if you compare what we invested with what we actually needed, I ask myself whether we did not go too far here. What happens in negotiations is that somebody always comes and says, let's make sure of this and that point, and it is extremely difficult to argue with overcareful men when this happens. Carefulness is a quality which cannot be downplayed, the only problem is that it is time-consuming. I believe the negotiations on Tabah got stuck due to the addition of the legal element to the political negotiations. By the way, for clarity's sake I want to say that this is more true on the Egyptian side than on the Israeli. I think that Israel has gone a long way, and Egypt has also gone quite a long way, but now we are in the midst of the legal stage, and I hope we find a legal solution providing maximum guarantees to both sides.

[Ben-'Ami] Will this take place within days? Weeks? Can you estimate the time?

[Peres] No. I never deal with dates.

[Schiffer] Perhaps we can give some timetable for what can be expected to take place in our relations with Egypt. To ask the question which has been raised throughout this year: Is there still a chance for a meeting between you and the Egyptian president?

[Peres] I would not rule out this possibility. However, I would also not like to make it a central political objective. I think it is important, but I would not like to regard it as a prize for something. I believe that if the Egyptian president and I meet we could advance the peace issue in our region. I am ready to meet him, but I am not willing to make it an objective in itself.

[Ben-'Ami] These negotiations have another angle, the Palestinian factor, which is an important, vital factor here. We are speaking of the Palestinian leadership; where does this element fit into the negotiations?

[Schiffer] Do you have an alternative leadership upon which you can rely, an alternative Palestinian leadership in the territories?

[Peres] The problem of an alternative Palestinian leadership, or of an alternative among the present leaders, is as follows: They cannot make a move by themselves. The thing that destroys the Palestinian issue is not the absence of leadership, but the fear faced by those leaders who are willing to enter negotiations. It is no longer 'Arafat by himself, we have Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] and Hawatimah. For example, in my opinion the mayor of Nabulus was murdered not by the PLO, but rather by another organization. Therefore, the problem facing this leadership is that of protection, which can be provided by Jordan or one of the terror organizations. However, if you are protected by one of the terror organizations then the other organizations will operate. Afterall, they also murder each other. Therefore, let me reiterate that the difficulty is not in establishing a leadership, but rather of freeing the leaders from the fear of terror.

[Schiffer] So far, however, experience has shown that it is not desirable to be a Palestinian leader who is not under the patronage of the Palestinian organizations.

[Peres] Look, even those who are under the patronage of the Palestinian organizations are not safe, look at Al-Sartawi and Al-Qawasimi, there are murders left and right. The truth is that the use of violence greatly curtails the ability of the Palestinians to negotiate.

[Schiffer] What, then, can you do in this situation, when Israel continues to hold the territories? So far there is no alternative leadership, and this situation of the occupation and the mix of Arab and Jewish populations continues.

[Peres] First of all it is necessary to preserve a situation of openness in the territories. The problem of the territories is not only linked to the solution of the Palestinian problem, it is also linked to how Israel will look in the future. This week the government discussed the issue of demography. Today, there are 560,000 Arab inhabitants in Gaza, without passports, on a territory of 350,000 dunams. This is the greatest density in the world, I was told it is even more dense than Hong Kong. What do we want to do, annex it? And I am not even speaking here of the problems in Judaea and Samaria. Therefore, both from the standpoint of preserving the chances for peace, and the desire to preserve Israel's Jewish identity, our generation must not rashly

annex the territories, whether by law or by force. A situation of openness in the territories is also a situation of openness in the negotiations. We also have to remember that Judaea and Samaria are populated by Jordanian citizens and we must therefore allow Jordan to maintain ties with these inhabitants. There was some confusion in the territories, mainly in Judaea and Samaria. At some point they believed that Husayn and 'Arafat were joining forces, and therefore, they thought they could go with both of them at the same time. The result of this was that Jordan lost much of its influence. It is now returning and trying to increase its influence, and since they are Jordanian citizens and we are not too excited about the PLO, this action presents some sort of opportunity for the future.

[Ben-'Ami] In that case, Mr prime minister, do you believe it will be possible to implement the plan which was headlined 'Gaza First,' that is, to start the experiment there?

[Peres] This issue is most complicated. This is not a choice for us to make, but rather for the Arabs. This is an Arab option. I believe that Jordan has in no way given up on its hope of retaining a link with Gaza, contrary to what is written in many Israeli newspapers. Now, if we proceed with Egypt without Jordan we will be causing a rupture that would make progress impossible. If, for example, all the Arabs unite and say: Let us examine the possibility of implementing autonomy in Gaza, then we should examine it, but we have not reached that point yet.

[Schiffer] However, what is your proposal? Do you propose, when we examine the issue of 'Gaza First,' that there be a link between the Palestinians and Egypt, or another alternative such as the traditional Jordanian alternative? What is your practical suggestion?

[Peres] First of all, I am proposing nothing. I think the proposals must come from the Arab side. Any proposal that we make will immediately face total Arab opposition. In this case the initiative must come from the Arab side. The Arabs know that this government, like previous governments, was ready to discuss self-administration [minhal 'azmi] for the territories, and we bring up this option again. We will not impose it, but if the Palestinians wake up from their sleep, or rather from their nightmare, and are ready to discuss self-administration in Gaza and in Judaea and Samaria, we will do so gladly.

[Ben-'Ami] And until then are we to sit and wait?

[Peres] I am not suggesting that we sit or wait. My suggestion is that we constantly search for alternatives. However, I am not willing to talk about them until we find them.

[Schiffer] With your permission, sir, let us move on to several international issues. Recently you visited France and, as reported, the matter of France supplying a nuclear reactor to Israel was raised. Mr prime minister, we have heard that in principle the French are prepared to sell us such a reactor, but in the same vein they are prepared to sell such a reactor to Iraq. This naturally creates a problem.

[Peres] First of all they did not say this. They asked our opinion on the sale of a reactor to Iraq. The difference between Iraq and Israel is a very small one: Iraq has oil, and therefore I doubt that it needs nuclear power for energy purposes, while we do not have oil. We are talking sincerely about a reactor to supply energy and energy alone. When I was asked I said the difference was simple: They need a reactor in order to create trouble; we need a reactor in order to produce electric power. These are two completely different things. Thus, a priori, we are honestly suspicious about the Iraqis' motives for purchasing a reactor. Incidentally, I do not really know if this desire exists. I would also like to mention that the Iraq-Iran war currently costs Iraq $500 million a month. The Iraqi economy is not what it used to be. It should be understood that the war's continuation and the drop in oil prices have had an effect on Iraq. I do not know what Iraq wants today; it seems to me they prefer more tanks and planes than reactors. As for our concerns, basically they must be economic. At the moment the dream of many Israelis, myself included, is to reach a state of independence in water, bread, energy, arms, and education.

[Ben-'Ami] Mr Peres, at the time the matter was raised, you opposed the bombing of the Iraqi nuclear reactor. Now that you are prime minister and that time has passed, do you still hold the same opinion, that the reactor should not have been bombed?

[Peres] A prime minister has to forego several luxuries, among them the luxury of dealing with history, and this is what I am doing.

[Ben-'Ami] Nevertheless, what is your opinion as a private individual?

[Peres] I am not prepared to delve into an analysis of this now. It would only cause controversy. In any event the reactor was bombed and the matter is over. What do I need another controversy for now? Is the country short on controversies?

[Schiffer] Sir, we will now try to look into recent remarks concerning the Eastern bloc while examining Israel's international relations. Is there any room for a breakthrough with countries behind the Iron Curtain? Poland's name is being mentioned more and more.

[Peres] The word breakthrough is too pretentious, but there is something to this. However, it is very modest and I would not hinge great hopes on it. The basic problem is what is happening both in the Soviet Union and in the Soviet Union's relations with the United States of America. We are living in very changeable and dynamic times. I think, for example, the Soviet Union is different following Chernobyl. It is not only a matter of a reactor being damaged; the country's national security and self-confidence have also been harmed; this is what I mean. In addition, the hopes which the Americans and the Soviets hinged on the summit meeting between Reagan and Gorbachev did not materialize. And on top of all these events, the Soviets have considerable problems. Their economic situation is apparently more serious than ever before. Oil was their major export item, and they lost 50 percent of the value of this export. They also used oil and gas to pay the West for technology. The situation in Afghanistan is not good. Again, I do not want to describe this as the end of the world. The Soviet Union is an enormous super-

power, filling a sixth of the globe; it has resources and people, and I do not want to go from one extremity to the other.

[Schiffer] But what is your conclusion, sir?

[Peres] My conclusion is simple. I believe there is room for a reassessment of Soviet foreign policy in the not too distant future, as a result of all the current processes and events. I know there are Soviet leaders who say: Let us sit out the 2 years Reagan has left in office and then begin U.S.-Soviet detente. However, actual events are not so patient, and we must continually monitor developments. After all, we are not managing U.S.-Soviet relations. We have a clear-cut and vital interest in Soviet Jewry. However, this interest is a function of global, international relations, and hence our interest in these relations. On the eve of the Geneva summit we had high hopes, but they were not realized, neither at an international level nor at a level directly concerning us. Now there is a new situation. I do not know what conclusions will be drawn from this situation, but I believe they will be different from the previous ones.

[Schiffer] Do our ties with Eastern bloc countries, excluding the Soviet Union, depend on some degree of improved relations with the Soviet Union, or is there a bilateral rapprochement between us and Poland or between us and Hungary?

[Peres] I tend to think that when the Eastern bloc countries make a political move, they do not do so apart from Moscow. One thing that must be said unambiguously is that there are not two blocs in the world; there is one bloc, the communist bloc, and then there is the free world. The situation in the communist bloc, although very organized, is not good. The situation is not good, but the organization is good. In the free world, the organization is imperfect, but the situation is better.

Relations With U.S. Discussed

TA141937 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1800 GMT 13 May 86

[Interview with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres by Nahman Shay and political correspondent 'Oz Frankel on the eve of Israel's Independence Day; place not given]

[Excerpt] [Frankel] Sir, on the eve of Israel's 38th Independence Day you received a check for nearly $400 million from the U.S. ambassador. I assume, I know, that you and all of us are grateful for this aid which the United States has extended to us. However, do you not see any contradiction between, on the one hand, the striving and aspirations implied in the word independence, and our continual dependence on the United States, on the other?

[Peres] When I review U.S. history, I recall that the United States also received assistance in its early stages. The U.S. ambassador to France was then Benjamin Franklin, and the first big loan the United States received came from France. In general, the United States is a very generous country, and the truth is that our heavy dependence is the result of extensive external problems which confront us. If no superpower were involved in the Middle East, we would not have to spend so much money on, for example, defense needs. However, the Soviet Union supplies enormous quantities of arms and at low prices, and if we want to maintain free countries and democratic rule in the world, there is no alternative but to balance the aid extended by the nondemocratic powers with aid from democratic countries, until the time when peace is attained. At the same time I think that we really must make a supreme effort to attain economic independence. I often think that if in the past 10 years the country's economic growth had been similar to that during the past 30 years, Israel's GNP today would stand at $38 billion, and not $23 billion; then we really would not require aid.

[Shay] However, not only in the economic sphere but on every political or strategic issue it seems that in the past year we have been in the shadow of the United States more than in the past. One example is "star wars", while another is the establishment of broadcasting stations in Israel.

[Peres] I think care should be taken not to do Israel an injustice. We are, after all, a small country, a lone democratic country in a very complex region. Do not compare Israel to European countries, to France or England. Their dependence on the United States is 10 times greater. In fact, the United States protects the continent of Europe not only economically, but militarily. Furthermore, the extent of economic aid is tremendous, approximately $130 billion annually. Thus, the aid we receive is much less than that received by European countries, and therefore our dependence is less.

You raised various issues. I do not believe, for example, that the United States would invite us to participate in the "star wars" project just to contribute something to us. It wants our contribution, too. Our interests certainly coincide with the United States' in this area. The "star wars" research project includes, for example, antimissile weapons, or antimissile missiles. We have experience in missiles from katyushas to surface-to-surface missiles with ranges of hundreds of kilometers. Were such missiles not positioned toward us, we would not have to seek weapons against them. Therefore, it is in the United States' interest to make use of Israel's research ability, and it is in Israel's interest to develop weapons necessary to defend itself. The same applies to the U.S. broadcasting station. As long as wild slander campaigns are waged against us by other stations, why should we not permit a free country that assists us to make its voice heard?

Taking into consideration the difference in size between the United States and Israel, relations between us can certainly be described as mutual. I also think that today the United States considers Israel as one of three or four countries on which it can rely more than other countries, not because of our military capability, but because we are an exceptional combination of a democratic country with conviction, and a country which can defend itself with its younger generation.

[Shay] Does this give-and-take relationship which you have outlined between Israel and the United States leave room for a future political move without the United States, or will any such move be conditional on some U.S. participation?

[Peres] As long as the world is in a state of being what is called bipolar, that is composed of a Soviet pole and a U.S. pole, and as long as the Soviets support the Arabs, we have no alternative but

to make use of the United States to neutralize Soviet action. The difference between the Soviet and U.S. positions is the fact that the Soviets support one side, the Arab side, while the Americans support the side of rapprochement between the Arabs and us. Because the Arabs themselves are, how shall I put it, ashamed to appear openly in favor of peace, it is good that the United States enables them to overcome this embarrassment.

Egypt's Basyuni on Tabah Talks, Tension With Syria

TA141950 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Egyptian Charge d'Affaires Muhammad Basyuni says the Tabah talks will be resumed next Monday in Israel. Basyuni was talking to reporter David Essing at President Herzog's annual Independence Day reception for the diplomatic corps in Jerusalem. Basyuni said he had conveyed a message from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak on Israel's Independence Day.

[Begin recording] [Basyuni] I just congratulated him about the national day of Israel, and his excellency's hope that next year that we can implement and go ahead for the comprehensive peace and all over the area.

[Essing] Mr Basyuni, Israel and Egypt are about to resume negotiations on Tabah. What progress is being made in those negotations? When will they begin again?

[Basyuni] The Egyptian delegation will come to Israel Sunday, and we will resume the talks Monday and Tuesday, and really, there is a lot of progress. We still discuss the arbitration procedures, and I hope that we can find a solution for the compromise of the arbitration and especially the question in this meeting.

[Essing] What is the major problem now that is holding up progress in the Tabah talks?

[Basyuni] The main problem is the question, and I hope that we can find a common understanding in this meeting.

[Essing] Have you been in contact with the Israeli Government about the tension between Israel and Syria?

[Basyuni] Really, you know, the tension is only in the press, and I don't know exactly if there is something like that or not. But I see in the press, but now I notice that the Israeli Government would like to make the tone less. And really, we hope, as I told you, to find the solution to cool this tension and let us put all our efforts for finding a comprehensive peace and a good solution for all of us here. [end recording]

5 Injured in Nabulus Demonstrations; Curfew Imposed

TA141123 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] The center of the town of Nabulus has been placed under curfew following violent demonstrations in which at least five Nabulus residents were wounded this morning. Jerry Cheslow reports:

The demonstrations began at 0945 this morning. Nabulus Arab sources say the town was reacting angrily against a scheduled march through Nabulus by Jewish settlers to mark Independence Day. Several hundred Palestinian students left Al-Najah University and headed for the center of town. On the way they stoned a border police vehicle.

The policemen summoned held and fired into the air. Reinforcements arrived and the students fled into the narrow alleyways of the casbah's central market. According to military sources the students continued stoning the border policemen from the casbah. The soldiers fired rubber bullets and tear-gas, then they fired into the air, then at the demonstrators, wounding at least two men. Palestinian sources say three men were shot, one in the head, another in the lung, and a third in the leg. Three women were also hurt. Military sources say that they were hit by stones thrown by the demostrators. A curfew was imposed on the center of Nabulus 2 hours ago.

Curfew Lifted

TA141819 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] The curfew imposed on the center of Nabulus following violent demonstrations this afternoon was lifted this evening. During the demonstrations two Nabulus students were wounded by shots fired by border policemen.

Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that three other youths were wounded by stones.

Citizen Detained on Arms Charges; Ministry Reacts

TA150533 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 15 May 86

[Text] Another Israeli suspected of having tried to smuggle arms to Iran or Iraq has been detained in the United States. Our correspondent in Washington Razi Barqay reports that Ze'ev Reiss, a member of Kibbutz Giv'at Brenner and a representative of the kibbutz industry in the United States, was picked up at New York's Kennedy Airport and will be transferred to Texas for trial.

The spokesman of the Israeli Embassy in Washington said there is no connection between Reiss and the defense establishment. The Defense Ministry announced it knows nothing about Reiss and that an investigation which was conducted indicates that he does not hold a permit from the ministry to deal in exporting arms. Reiss was detained along with three others, and they were charged with attempting to smuggle TOW missiles to the Persian Gulf.

Our correspondent says there is no connection between this affair and the group which was detained in Bermuda. A justice of the Bermuda Supreme Court yesterday heard the arguments of the two sides on the expulsion of the suspects to the United States, and said that he will shortly announce his ruling. The five people

detained in this affair, including three Israelis, are still being held in Bermuda.

AL-QUDS on Jordan's Policy Toward Palestinians

TA091700 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic
7 May 86 pp 1, 11

[Editorial "The Advisers and the Errors"]

[Text] The American newspaper the *CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR* has written that King Husayn's advisers committed immense political errors when they entertained the possibility of Jordan entering separate peace talks with Israel. We are all aware that these advisers committed a grave mistake when they counseled King Husayn to deliver his speech on 19 February in which he announced the suspension of relations between Jordan and the PLO.

This was followed by further serious mistakes such as the delegations that went to Amman after the speech, who were even ignored by Jordanian propaganda within a few days.

These advisers are undoubtedly the same ones who suggested that obstacles be placed over the bridges, and who compiled a long list of names of those allowed or not allowed to cross them. They are the very advisers who daily are adding new practices of harassment that ultimately harm the special and historical relations between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples.

We do not know the logic of their thinking. Restrictions, harassment, intimidation, and promises will not lead the Palestinian people, who are holding out on their land despite an occupation whose darkness has lasted 19 years, to give up their origin, nationality, and deep affiliation.

The Palestinian people aspire to a just, enduring, and comprehensive peace based on their legitimate national rights — the same awaited peace for the achievement of which they have been sacrificing for many years.

These advisers should perhaps study the history of the Palestinian people to understand their qualities and traits.

Al-Qadhdhafi Cables New Sudanese Leaders

LD141509 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1439 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Tripoli Ramadan 6, May 14, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution sent cables of congratulations to Ahmed 'Ali al-Mirghani the president of the Presidium council on his election to his post and to Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi the prime minister of sisterly Sudan on his appointment as head of Sudan's Government.

Receives Al-Mahdi Message From Envoy

LD142156 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2015 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution this evening received the envoy of the Sudanese prime minister, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, who handed him a message from the prime minister of Sudan. In the message, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi offered his condolences for the martyrs who had fallen to the fire of U.S. state terrorism from among the sons and daughters of the Arab Libyan people.

In his letter, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi declared his condemnation of the U.S.-Atlanticist aggression against the people of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, saying: We must do something to confront the terrorism practiced by a superpower that has taken leave of its senses and has begun behaving with the logic of highwaymen.

Cyprus Paper: Al-Qadhdhafi Urges Closure of UK Bases

NC150525 Nicosia CYPRUS MAIL in English 15 May 86 p 1

[Text] Nicosia, (r) — Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has urged Cyprus to close sovereign British bases on the island, according to the text of a speech released by the Libyan Embassy here yesterday.

"Cypriots should shut down the British bases or we will be forced into a new confrontation that will inflict destruction on the island" Al-Qadhdhafi said.

"These bases pose dangers to Libya's security, Syria's security and the security of Lebanon. They contribute to sinful, barbarous, savage, crusader aggression led by the United States" he added.

An embassy official was unable to say when or where the undated speech was delivered.

A Cypriot spokesman said the government was studying the speech but could not yet comment.

An official source meanwhile noted the government had denied that the two bases, retained by Britain when Cyprus became independent in 1960, were in any way involved in last month's U.S. air raids on Tripoli and Banghazi.

President Spiros Kiprianou's long-term aim was the demilitarization of Cyprus, he added.

Ed. note: Col al-Qadhdhafi's speech was delivered in Banghazi a few days after the American air strike on April 15.

Former Prime Minister Interviewed by Cairo Paper

PM131024 Cairo AL-AHRAM INTERNATIONAL EDITION in Arabic 9 May 86 p 13

[Report on interview with former Libyan Prime Minister 'Abd al-Hamid al-Bakkush by Muhammad Zayid; date, place not given]

[Excerpts] 'Abd al-Hamid al-Bakkush says: According to definite information reaching the Libyan Liberation Organization daily from the most reliable sources, the situation in Libya now is quite the opposite of the illusory idea which seems to dominate the minds of Arab citizens and makes them believe that they are faced with an invincible mystery force. U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has recently stated that the United States has irrefutable evidence of general resentment in Libya and strong evidence that the Libyan Army is unhappy with Al-Qadhdhafi's rule. That is a true and realistic statement. There have been eight attempts to topple Al-Qadhdhafi. One such attempt was made recently; it was very well planned, nearly achieved its objectives, and would have succeeded if some foreigners had not betrayed it. If there is any explanation of Al-Qadhdhafi's ability to prolong the life of his regime it is certainly not his strength or his regime's stability. The explanation is his terrorism and murder of Libyans in the streets. You ask me what are the most likely possibilities now. I say with certainty that Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi will resort to more and uglier terrorism because he does not learn from his mistakes. The United States will resort to violence and that will prompt the Libyan Army to quickly overthrow Al-Qadhdhafi, especially if the next strike is aimed at Libyan utilities. Al-Qadhdhafi's only weapon, which he uses to rule Libya, finance international terrorism, and trouble the whole world without any intellectual assets is oil. If his only weapon were hit, he would lose control of his own private guards. It is true that I have always said that Al-Qadhdhafi was 100-percent "an American agent" and I have emphasized that any signs pointing to the contrary were mere deception, no more and no less. Then the U.S. attack occurred, so I am called upon to provide an explanation for the contradiction between what I have maintained and what actually happened to the contrary.

The truth is that there is no contradiction. It is just that certain developments have turned one ally against another. Let me explain that. It is a historical certainty that the Americans facilitated Mu'ammar's rise to power. The first stage of Al-Qadhdhafi's relations with the United States was the stage of recruiting him to cause trouble in the Arab region and in the neighboring countries and to put as many obstacles as possible in the way of Egyptian-Libyan unity to kill the possibility of any such strong state eventually emerging, and also to open a front on Egypt's western borders as a substitute for Egypt's eastern front with Israel.

The second stage in Al-Qadhdhafi's relations with the Americans began early in 1980. They criticize him for involvement in international terrorism but they were the ones who pushed him into it. In the beginning they encouraged him to participate with

the Palestinian organizations in activities inside and outside Israel in order to foment sedition among these organizations and he managed to polarize some of them, and when he used terrorism against his political opponents they kept quiet about it.

The year 1981 saw the third stage and the divorce between the United States and Mu'ammar. That was when Al-Qadhdhafi went out of control and expanded the circle of terrorism on his own. When they tried to deter him they discovered that his deviation was such that it was impossible to control him. After the many terrorist operations in which he was involved and which hurt the United States and the rest of the world it was time to strike, not to finish him off personally — they still do not have an alternative regime to Al-Qadhdhafi's — but merely to keep him from carrying on with his own terrorism. So the disagreement is over the terrorism which a son carries out against the will of his father. Hence the recent U.S. strike, and I say very clearly that, far from condemning it, I welcome it because it might facilitate internal salvation from this regime.

No, there was no failure in hitting the targets. All the targets identified during the period of threats were fully and most accurately hit. The camps of Bab al-'Aziziyah, Sidi Blal, Baninah, and 'Uqbah Ibn Nafi' were destroyed. Confirmed figures, which he does not dare announce, show that he lost 50 military aircraft — Migs and Mirages — 3 civilian planes were destroyed, and about 300 military personnel were killed. The 30 civilian casualties were because the U.S. aircraft bombed the intelligence building, which is surrounded by some embassies and residential buildings.

It is not true at all that any of Al-Qadhdhafi's children or members of his family were hit in the American raid. Al-Qadhdhafi only claimed that to impress upon the Libyan people that he had been involved in facing the U.S. aggression. As regards his claim that his adopted daughter was killed, it is true that a girl was killed but the father of that girl is a military man and is still alive; Al-Qadhdhafi never had an adopted daughter.

Do not believe that a five-member committee now rules Libya, as Al-Qadhdhafi claimed. He is just trying to absorb the public wrath. He sensed the grave danger of that wrath after facing certain defeat, he who always triumphs in every confrontation with any Arab state with the exception of Egypt. This five-member committee consists of former Revolution Command Council members who are all not even allowed to enter military camps or use military vehicles.

JANA Editor Views Spain's Talks on Severing Relations

LD142212 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2036 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] The Spanish *EL PAIS* newspaper has confirmed that the Spanish Government is studying the possibility of the severing of diplomatic relations with Libya.

On this attitude, the JANA European Affairs Editor pointed out that Spain is turning its back on its historic relations with the Arabs and its ties with the Arab and the Islamic nation, and by doing so it is categorically practicing an immoral principle. The editor explained that what makes the Spanish attitude even more strange — an attitude which is in coordination with the U.S. attitude which is hostile to the Great Jamahiriyah — is that the Spanish Government doing this is a socialist government which has turned its back on its history and on the Arabs who built Spain and made it the biggest source of olives and oranges. He said we well understand the wounds which pain the Spanish Government and know also when we make these wounds worse, and let Spain know emphatically that Ceuta and Mellila are two Arab cities and that the Canary Islands belong to Africa.

Baghdad: Opposition Urges 'Rise Against Leaders'

JN141603 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1500 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Tripoli — The Libyan opposition has held Al-Qadhdhafi's regime fully responsible for the material and moral damage caused to the Libyan people and also for the harm done to their dignity and independence. A statement issued by the Libyan Committee for National Salvation in Tripoli and obtained by the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY in Cairo today condemns the U.S. air raid, which damaged Libyan cities and killed and injured scores of innocent Libyans while the real criminal and his terrorist clique escaped unharmed.

The statement condemns those Arab states that are collluding with Al-Qadhdhafi's regime, which has shown no respect for Arab feelings, history, or joint defense pacts. The statement praises Iraq's steadfastness in its defense of Arab territory and honor against the expansionist Iranian aggression and wonders about the real Arab attitude toward the war which Iraq is waging on behalf of the Arab nation.

The statement calls on the Libyan people's masses and Armed Forces to rise against the leaders of the bloody dictatorship which has harmed Libya's honorable history and national and pan-Arab struggle.

MOROCCO

King Hassan, Guinea President Hold 2d Round of Talks

LD141643 Rabat MAP in English 1200 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Rabat, May 14 (MAP) — King Hassan I of Morocco held here Tuesday a second round of private talks with President Lansana Conte of Guinea. The two heads of state had had a first round of talks Monday shortly after the Guinean president's arrival in Morocco.

Parallel to the summit talks, the two countries' ministerial delegations held two work sessions Tuesday under the [words indistinct] Moroccan deputy premier and minister of national education [words indistinct] military committee for national recovery, Jean Traore.

The sessions were devoted to discussing the most appropriate ways and means of giving a new impetus to bilateral cooperation especially in the areas of education, scientific research, agriculture, mining, and fisheries.

The two sides decided to carry on discussing the details of this cooperation during the upcoming meeting of the Moroccan-Guinean joint commission set to take place in Conakry next September.

They also voiced the two countries' political willingness to further consolidate the ties binding them.

SUDAN

Al-Mahdi Announces 20-Member Cabinet Formation

JN151455 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1418 GMT 15 May 86

[Text] Khartoum, 15 May (SUNA) — Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi here today announced the members of his new 20-member Cabinet, which includes a new ministry, the Ministry of Peace and National Constitutional Conference Affairs. The prime minister assumed the post of defense minister. The national unity government is formed as follows:

Deputy prime minister and foreign minister: Al-Sharif Zayn al-'Abidin al-Hindi
Minister of agriculture: Dr 'Umar Nur al-Da'im
Minister of interior: Sayyid Ahmad al-Husayn
Minister of energy and mining: Dr Adam Madibu
Minister of presidential affairs: Salah al-Din 'Abd al-Salam al-Khalifah
Minister of irrigation: Aldo Ago
Minister of finance and planning: Dr 'Umar Bashir Muhammad
Minister of local government: Joshua Dewal
Minister of Health: Dr Husayn Abu Salih
Minister of industry: Mubarak 'Abdallah al-Mahdi
Minister of transport and communications: Serafino Wani
Minister of animal wealth: Isma'il Ab Bakr Ahmad
Attorney general: 'Abd al-Mahmud al-Haj Salih
Minister of public works, housing, and public utilities: Muhammad Tahir al-Jaylani
Minister of trade and supply: Muhammad Yusuf Abu Hurayrah
Minister of culture and information: Muhammad Tawfiq Muhammad Yusuf
Minister of labor and civil service: Walter Koni Juwak
Minister of peace and national constitutional conference affairs: Dr Khalid Muhammad Ahmad Yahi

Dr Yaji is assisted by a national committee composed of government and opposition parties and representatives of the team that held contacts with John Garang during the transitional period in the name of the National Alliance.

[Khartoum SUNA in Arabic at 1057 GMT on 15 May includes the following name and position in its report on the Cabinet formation:

Minister of education: Bakri Ahmad 'Adil]

The Al-Ummah Party, which is headed by Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, got nine ministries, while the Democratic Unionist Party, which is headed by Muhammad 'Uthman al-Mirghani, got six ministries. One ministry each went to the Progressive People's Party, the Sudanese African Congress, the Southern Sudanese Political Association, and the Sudanese People's Federal Party. A new ministry called the Ministry of Peace and National Constitutional Conference Affairs was created for the National Alliance.

Report on Al-Mahdi's 13 May News Conference

JN141102 Khartoum SUNA in English 1040 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Khartoum, May 14, (SUNA) — Formation of the new Cabinet has been completed but the Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi said it would be declared Thursday at the Constituent Assembly.

Speaking at a press conference here Tuesday night Al-Mahdi said the postponement of the Cabinet's announcement was due to a request by the assembly's speaker Muhammad Ibrahim Khalil who advised to announce the Cabinet formation from inside the assembly.

Al-Mahdi said the formation of the government was delayed by (passive attitude) due to the walk out of southern parties and the Sudan National Party deputies from the assembly May 6.

The deputies walked out of the said session, which was devoted for the election of the constitutional posts including the five member State Supreme Council, the prime minister and the house speaker, press ahead with their demands [word indistinct] the issue of their representation in the Cabinet by one third of the portfolios.

(We have held prolonged meetings with those parties and we have finally reached a basic for their participation in the government and the preparation for the constitutional conference). The prime minister said.

(The southerners will be represented in the executive appartus according to their proportion in the population of the country's inhabitants), he added.

The prime minister said the Cabinet and names of the ministers were ready but he added that the assembly's speaker has suggested to announce the government formation from inside the assembly (as it is not in a recess.)

Al-Mahdi said he met with the concerned officials and acquainted himself with the country's pressing issues including finding a peaceful settlement for the problem of southern Sudan.

When asked whether the south will be divided into three regions or will be a unified one region the premier said it was up to the southerners to choose the way of administration they like in their regions saying that the central government would implement what would be reached by them.

It is to be recalled that some southerners want a unified region while others mainly from Equatoria area wanted a divided three southern regions.

Al-Mahdi said he made it clear to the southern political groups that his government does not intend to approach them through what he described as Numayri's way of divide and role.

We talked with the southern parties with objective of gaining their support to the government and we have reached an acceptable formula for their participation in the government and for their participation in the upcoming constitutional conference, he added.

Regarding peace talks with the rebels of Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM), Al-Mahdi said a delegation was sent to the SPLM leader John Garang to assure him that the new government was keen on the convening of the constitutional conference.

The delegation would set a new date for the arrangements of the conference, originally scheduled to take place May 7. He said the previous date was impossible because the government has not been formed.

Al-Mahdi told the press conference that due concern would be given to the upgrading of the People's Armed Forces' capabilities to safeguard the country's security.

Al-Mahdi himself is expected to assume the portfolio of the Defence Ministry in the impending Cabinet which will announce in the assembly tomorrow.

Turning to the economic issue the premier said he was glad that Western and Eastern foreign quarters including the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund have expressed willingness to open a new chapter with Sudan. We hope that these quarters will understand our position.

The prime minister is apparently referring to IMF last Feb. decision on cutting off credits for Sudan who asked for rephasing of about 250 million dollar of debt arrears inherited from the regime of ousted President Numayri.

With regard to the foreign policy of his new government the prime minister said Sudan would exert efforts to achieve Arab solidarity through a Sudanese vision.

Al-Mahdi voiced that Sudan since the ousted of Numayri has begun correcting its foreign policy to be based on moderation and non-alignment.

The premier conceded that there were some differences between Sudan and the U.S. due to the American-Libyan conflict, but we will maintain our good neighbourly relations with Libya and at the same time we are keen to maintain our relations with U.S. as a superpower.

According to our political credibility Sudan will manage to establish relations with the superpowers without military, secu rity or political affiliation because the politics of Sudan does not allow political polarization. The premier told the press conference.

Replying to journalists' questions Al-Mahdi said all joint pacts which had been signed during the defunct regime of the ousted president including the defence pact with Egypt and which were not considered by the former Transitional Government will [be] subject to a thorough study.

Any pact that would drag Sudan into regional and international line-up will be against our declared policy, he explained. Regarding the integration between Sudan and Egypt, he said, his government was keen on achieving real economic projects with sisterly Egypt but he added that Sudan would thoroughly reconsider bilateral agreements to find out how far they bind Sudan to political axis he said his government would not hesitate to abrogate any agreement that contradicts Sudan's non-aligned foreign policy.

The unique ties between Sudan and Egypt should be characterized in the presence of the two peoples because the institutions existing under Numayri were designed for propaganda to make him appear that he was protexted by Egypt to secure his political position, the premier said.

But the current regime is not running after these things. We are running after real economic and cultural projects in the interest of the two peoples, he added.

Al-Mahdi said his government would discuss with the Egyptian officials the affair of integration to find an accepted alternative which would signify the reality of the unique relations.

Asked about the priorities of his government programme regarding the internal policy Al-Mahdi highlighted that the food, security, justice and rectifying legislations including the controversial Moslem Shari'ah laws will be high on the priorities of the government.

The premier said he entrusted the attorney general chamber to hammer out alternative legislations for the 1983 Islamic legislations which were introduced by the ex-president Numayri.

It is to be recalled that the partners in the impending government are agreed on abrogation of these legislation while the Islamic National Front (INF) the major force in the opposition is [words indistinct] them until their [word indistinct]

On the other hand Al-Mahdi disclosed that a special body will be established in the new government to follow up closely details for the convening of the constitutional conference which will decide the shape of government and the relation between the centre and the regions.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Receives Libyan Communications Minister

Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic
0900 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Today Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the WPE Central Committee, PMAC chairman, and commander in chief of the revolutionary Armed Forces, received and held talks with brother Mubarak al-Shamikh, Libyan transport and communications minister.

During the meeting Comrade Mubarak al-Shamikh recalled last month's air attacks against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah by U.S. imperialism. He told the comrade secretary general that the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah admires the correct stand adopted by revolutionary Ethiopia and the solidarity it expressed. Our comrade revolutionary leader said that last month's action against Libya is very regrettable. He added that, in addition to using its might, imperialism will not refrain from doing everything possible to stifle the activities of progressive forces in all areas of the socialist camp. The comrade secretary general said that progressive forces should coordinate their resources and intensify their solidarity in the struggle.

The meeting, which was held at the special office of the comrade secretary general at the WPE Central Committee, was attended by Comrade Goshu Wolde, WPE Central Committee member and foreign minister, and brother Khalifa Ahmad Bazelya, secretary of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah People's Bureau in revolutionary Ethiopia.

Gebre Mariam Fanta Appointed New Deputy Minister

Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic
1700 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] The PMAC has issued an appointment on promotion. In this respect, Comrade Brigadier General Gebre Mariam Fanta has been appointed deputy minister in the Ministry of Urban Development and housing.

ZEMEN Terms Talks With Somalia 'Good Start'

EA131249 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic
0915 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] We now present an editorial from *ADDIS ZEMEN* entitled "A Good Start." The editorial deals with the first meeting of the ad hoc Ethiopia-Somalia joint committee, which aims at resolving the problems between the two countries through dialogue. The meeting was held in Addis Ababa.

In its editorial *ZEMEN* points out that the discovery of a joint solution to the common problems of the two countries will not only guarantee peace in the region but also help to expand and strengthen development work. Refraining from attempts to resolve differences between countries through force but, instead, trying to resolve them through dialogue, noninterference in internal affairs, and respect for territorial integrity and mutual dignity are points which occupy a very important place in the UN and OAU Charters. Respect for these points strengthens goodneighborliness, brotherly relations, and peaceful coexistence between countries, and especially between neighboring countries. It also creates favorable conditions for expanding joint cooperation in all spheres and for enhancing development. It is clear that disregard for these conditions invites negative results.

Since the inception of our continental organization, the OAU, efforts have been made and are still being made to strengthen relations in all spheres between member countries and to move the continent out of its backward state into a better state of development.

Nevertheless, certain problems left behind by colonialism have hindered this kind of constructive activity. In some regions problems which could be resolved easily are magnified, and this invites interference by imperialism. This situation has created a spirit of enmity instead of a spirit of goodneighborliness and brotherly relations. The Horn of Africa is one of the regions where such a situation exists. Even though there are blood ties between the peoples of Ethiopia and Somalia, the people have not yet benefited from this.

Hence, it is clear that these differences should be set aside to make room for goodneighborliness, brotherly relations, and peaceful coexistence. Since revolutionary Ethiopia has no aim other than peace and social development, it has repeatedly stated that it will continue to strive for peace in the region, for greater cooperation, and greater mutual development. This testifies to our country's peaceful stand. The establishment of IGADD, the Djibouti-based inter-governmental Authority on Drought and Development to which both countries belong, has a major contribution to make in this respect.

The exchange of ideas between the leaders of Ethiopia and Somalia, who attended the Djibouti meeting, has created a new situation in relations between the two countries. An ad hoc committee has been established to discuss the joint problems of the two countries and to formulate ideas for solutions. In this respect the first meeting of the Ethiopia-Somalia ad hoc committee in Addis Ababa last week built foundations for those efforts. The Ethiopia-Somalia ad hoc committee has been charged with a great responsibility. In general, the meeting held between Ethiopia and Somalia is a good start to the peace efforts embarked upon by the two countries. *ZEMEN* ends its editorial by saying that the successful continuation of this process is the desire of the peoples of the two countries.

BENIN

Further Reportage on Visit of PLO Chairman 'Arafat

Final Communique Issued

AB132215 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 13 May 86

["Final communique" issued at the end of visit to Benin by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat on 13 May — recorded]

[Text] At the invitation of the head of state, His Excellency Mathieu Kerekou, His Excellency Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolutionary Forces, paid a friendly working visit to the People's Republic of Benin from 12 to 13 May, 1986. Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and the delegation accompanying him were welcomed on arrival by President Mathieu Kerekou, chairman of the Central Committee of the People's Revolution Party of Benin, president of the Republic, head of state, and chairman of the National Executive Council, along with an important delegation of the party and the state. Militants of the people's revolution of Benin accorded the PLO leader and his delegation an enthusiastic and very warm welcome.

During his stay in the People's Republic of Benin, PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and the head of state, President Mathieu Kerekou, held discussions in a cordial atmosphere, which enabled the two leaders to review issues of common interest, particularly the situation in the Middle East and Africa.

Expressing their concern over the prevailing situation in the Middle East, and notably concerning the Palestinian issue, the two leaders reaffirmed the fundamental principles of self-determination for peoples and human rights, and strongly condemned the expansionist policy of aggression and genocide of the Israeli state against the Palestinian people and the Arab states. The two leaders emphasized that there cannot be lasting peace in the region so long as the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people are not recognized, including their right to return to their fatherland, toself-determination, and to the establishment of a sovereign and independent state under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and so long as Zionist Israel does not end the illegal occupation of the Arab and Palestinian territories, and does not withdraw its troops.

To this effect, the two leaders stated that the most appropriate framework for negotiations toward the restoration of peace in the Middle East is the organization of an international peace conference under the auspicies of the United Nations, and with the effective participation of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

His Excellency Yasir 'Arafat informed the head of state, President Mathieu Kerekou, of the situation of the PLO action at the level of the Palestinian people, the Arab people,and states, and at the international level, as well as the recent developments in the situation in the Middle East. His Excellency President Mathieu Kerekou warmly congratulated the PLO leader and the heroic Palestinian people for the determination and courage with which they carry out the just liberation struggle for the establishment of an independent, sovereign, and internationally recognized Palestinian Arab state. He reaffirmed the constant and unflinching support of the working people of Benin to the valiant struggling Palestinian people.

The two leaders vehemently condemned the policy of domination and the oppressive acts carried out by the Zionist state of Israel in occupied Palestinian territories, thus defying world opinion and pertinent UN resolutions. They reaffirmed their strong condemnation of the Israeli raid on the PLO Headquarters in Tunis, and stressed the solidarity of their peoples with the Tunisian people.

Concerning the Iran-Iraq war which has caused enormous losses in human lives and considerable material damage, the two leaders noted with concern that the continuation of this war serves as a pretext for imperialist powers to continue their maneuvers of division and destabilization of the Middle East countries, thus weakening the position of the Third World. The two leaders made an urgent appeal to the two parties in conflict to put an end to their military acts of destruction and invite them to seek a peaceful solution to this armed conflict through negotiations.

On the prevailing situation in South Africa, the two leaders reiterated their firm condemnation of the despicable system of apartheid, and their unconditional support for the just struggle of the heroic people of South Africa, and for their democratic movement under the leadership of the ANC. They called for an immediate and total dismantling of the apartheid system set up by a racist minority, in favor of an egalitarian, democratic society that is not based on race.

While noting their satisfaction with the increasing anti-apartheid campaign at the international level, the two leaders appealed to the international community to intensify this campaign, and to put the necessary pressure on the racist Pretoria regime for the immediate and unconditional release of Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners, and for it to enter into direct negotiations with ANC, the vanguard movement for the liberation struggle of the South African people, for the total abolition of the apartheid system. They expressed the fervent hope that all nations and international organizations will participate massively in the international conference on sanctions against the racist Pretoria regime to take place in Paris in June 1986.

Examining the Namibian issue, the two leaders stressed the pertinent resolutions of the OAU, the Arab League, the Non-aligned Movement and the United Nations on this issue which is of much concern to peace- and justice-loving countries. While reaffirming their unflinching support to the just struggle of the Namibian people, under the leadership of its vanguard movement SWAPO, the two leaders made an urgent appeal to the United Nations, notably the Security Council to ensure the effective implementation of its resolution 435/78 on Namibia's independence.

The two leaders vehemently denounce the destabilization policy as well as the repeated aggression of the racist Pretoria against the Frontline States, and they reaffirm their support and solidar-

ity with the southern African states which are struggling to consolidate their sovereignty, and to maintain and strengthen their security. They appeal to all peace- and justice-loving countries, and to international organizations to participate massively in the international conference on Namibia's independence scheduled to take place in Vienna in July 1986.

On the situation in Chad, the two leaders strongly deplored [words indistinct] the Chadian people by years of civil war. They highly appreciated the laudable efforts made by the OAU for a peaceful solution to this conflict, and instantly invite the various parties to the conflict to overcome their partisan quarrels to rapidly engage in true negotiations leading to national reconciliation and the restoration of peace in Chad.

Concerning the situation in Latin America and the Caribbean, the two leaders condemned all maneuvers aimed at destabilizing the progressive states in the region. They reaffirmed their support for the Sandinista government in Nicaragua and the laudable efforts of the countries in the region for a peaceful solution to the problems in Latin America.

At the conclusion of the discussions, His Excellency Yasir 'Arafat expressed the appreciation and profound gratitude of the Palestinian people to the valiant people of the Beninese people's revolution, and to its prestigious leader, President Mathieu Kerekou. A general agreement on economic and technical cooperation was signed between the PLO and the People's Republic of Benin.

During his stay in the People's Republic of Benin, His Excellency Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, laid a wreath at the monument for the matrys of the Beninese revolution. He renewed his sincere gratitude to the head of state, the government, and people of Benin for the warm and fraternal reception accorded him and his delegation.

Those who took part in the discussions on the Beninese side were Romain Vilon Guezo, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Revolution Party of Benin [PRPB], chairman of the Standing Committee of the Revolutionary National Assembly; Roger Barba, member of the Political Bureau of the PRPB Central Committee, first vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the Revolutionary National Assembly; Edouard Zodehougan, minister delegate to the Presidency in charge of interior, public security and territorial administration acting for the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation; El Hadj Adamou Hamza, permanent secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation; Edmond (Kako Povo), director of the Department for Africa and the Arab World at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation.

Those who took part on the Palestinian side were Abd al-Rahim Ahmad, member of the PLO Executive Committee; Abu Ala Ahmad, economic adviser to the PLO chairman; Salman al-Hirfi, adviser to the PLO chairman on African Affairs; Imad Shakhur, adviser at the Presidency; Samir Baker, PLO ambassador to Lagos, Amin Abul (Hashura), deputy director of the PLO Bureau in Paris.

[Signed] For the People's Republic of Benin, Mathieu Kerekou, chairman of the PRPB Central Committee, president of the Republic, head of state, and chairman of the National Executive Council

[Signed] For the PLO, Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces. Issued in Cotonou on 13 May 1986

'Arafat Press Conference

AB140831 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 0615 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, gave a press conference at the People's Hall of the Republican Palace in Cotonou shortly before his departure. This took place in the presence of our great comrade in arms, President Mathieu Kerekou, the central authorities of the party and the state, as well as members of the diplomatic corps. It was in an atmosphere of sincere solidarity and revolutionary fervor that our illustrious guest began his press conference. Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in his introduction first of all expressed his gratitude to the Beninese people and their party for the reception accorded him as well as the sincere and unfliching support given by our country to the PLO and its chairman. Yasir 'Arafat then emphasized that his organization and our country, Benin, share identical views because, he indicated, they are involved in the same struggle, that of creating a world of justice, peace, freedom, and fraternity. The chairman of the PLO Executive Committee then explained at length the prevailing situation in the occupied Arab territories, a situation characterized by the relentless, dauntless ,and heroic struggle of the Palestinian militants in spite of maneuvers to discourage them and repeated aggression of the Zionists and imperialists against the Palestinian people. Chairman Yasir 'Arafat explained how Zionist Israel and the imperialists strive relentlesly with hatred to destroy the Arab nation in general and the Palestinian nation in particular. It was an occasion for the chairman of the PLO Executive Committee to talk about the foreign interference in the Iran-Iraq war, the situation in Beirut, the bombing of the Palestinian base in Tunisia, and so on. This brilliant introduction enlightened people on the real situation in the region. The answers given to questions further helped to shed light on the Palestinian issue. This press conference was the last engagement of His Excellency Yasir 'Arafat in Benin.

BURKINA FASO

Foreign Minister Meets Press After African Tour

AB132222 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 13 May 86

[News conference given by Basile Guissou, minister of external relations and cooperation, on 12 May in Ouagadougou after a 25-day visit to Angola, Zaire, Gabon, India, Brunei, and Iran — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Guissou] I took messages from the comrade president of Burkina Faso to his counterparts of Angola, Zaire, and Gabon.

This is for the African part of the tour. Later on, I took part in New Dehli in the Nonaligned Movement ministerial conference in preparation for the Harare Nonaligned summit due to be held in June. The ministerial conference was charged with preparing the dossiers to be submitted to the summit. They touch first on the critical economic situation and the need for the so-called Third World countries to develop South-South cooperation. The dossiers also touch on political matters such as the Western Sahara conflict, the Chadian situation, the war between Iran and Iraq, as well as the recent developments in the situation in the Mediterranean with the U.S. terrorist air raids against the cities of Tripoli and Benghazi.

After the meeting, I went successively to Bandar Seri Begawan, the capital of Brunei Darussalam, with another message from the comrade president, and lastly to the Islamic Republic of Iran where I handed a message from the comrade president to his counterpartPresident Ali Khamenei. That is the tour I have just made. Let us say that I was charged essentially with precise missions: conveying messages to the presidents of these various countries on bilateral cooperation. In the same vein, I also held talks with my colleagues, but the purpose of my visits was more to convey messages than to examine bilateral issues as such. That is what I can say in connection with the African tour.

[First unidentified reporter] Your African tour took you essentially to Angola, Zaire, and Gabon. Could you tell us what motivated the choice of these three particular African countries?

[Guissou] You newsmen are aware that several Zairian delegations have visited Burkina. My Zairian counterpart visited Burkina Faso at least four times. This also goes for Gabonese ministerial delegations which have visited Ouagadougou. It was therefore normal for Burkina to manifest itself — even if only by mere courtesy — toward countries showing interest in our country. This is also in respect for the heads of these countries who sent their ministers to our country on many occasions.

With regard to the People's Republic of Angola, you know that in spite of the distance between us... [changes thought] This country is now confronted with quite a difficult situation. It faces daily aggressive attacks by the South African racists and by the UNITA puppets who are supported financially by the United States. It was quite normal for Burkina Faso to show concrete solidarity with the Angolan people, by going there to show support on-the-spot. That is what I can say to justify our visits to these three countries.

[Second unidentified reporter] Comrade Minister, you also visited Tehran, as you said. We know that Iran and Iraq are at war. Can you tell us the official position of Burkina Faso on the conflict?

[Guissou] I told you just now that I attended the ministerial meeting of the Nonaligned countries in New Dehli, India. Burkina Faso was appointed unanimously to chair the political commission during the preparatory meeting. This was a tribute paid to our revolution and its political leadership. We accepted the appointment and carried out the task. I cannot cover ourselves in glory, but I think that I chaired the political commission with a maximum of lucidity, clearsightedness, and a sense of political tactfulness which enabled me to treat such delicate matters as the Iran-Iraq war, the Western Sahara question, and the Chadian situation.

With regard to the Iran-Iraq war, we believe that in our capacity as an active mediator for a cease-fire and peace, we must show prudence in undertaking any possible moves and avoid as often as possible taking stands unlikely to foster a possible cease-fire. This is why we have abstained up until now in our official utterances from choosing sides in that conflict. We must rather continue to work toward halting that war which we believe is a useless sacrifice of human lives.

[First reporter] Comrade Minister, you also visited the state of Brunei, a state about which the majority of Burkinabe know nothing. Can you first present that state briefly and then tell us what you discussed with the officials of that country?

[Guissou] That country is a member of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] and the United Nations with which Burkina Faso has very good relations. During the recent ICO ministerial meeting in Fes, Morocco, we sat side by side. You can guess that the Brunei delegation often sits side by side with our delegation because both countries have names beginning with the letter B and as a result we often sit side by side at almost every meeting. This facilitates the contacts. This is how contacts have been made, discussions held.

My Brunei counterpart, Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, has invited me on several occasions to visit his country. Through our modest persons, our respective heads of state have had the opportunity to exchange views and they want to materialize these relations by establishing diplomatic relations and exploring possible avenues of bilateral cooperation. This trip was the first one, and was successful. I believe that there is grounds for hope that mutually profitable relations can be developed with that country which is also a small country like ours.

[Second reporter] Comrade Minister, this question is not related to your trip, but it concerns the Burkinabe people all the same. In the past few days, the Western press has spoken of the expulsion of some sub-Saharan Africans from Algeria. Comrade Minister, what do you know about this?

[Guissou] I feel this is not a new problem. Already, some time ago, we faced the same problem of expulsion of African nationals from Nigeria. We do not yet have details on the circumstances of these expulsions. But what we can say is that we have very good relations with our Algerian brothers and comrades. We are convinced that the Algerian Government and people will always take useful measures to avoid painful situations. So, I would not like to trust media reports. I would rather wait for authoritative sources before we can express any position. But we also learned of this through the press like everyone else.

[Third unidentified reporter] In New Dehli where you took part in the Nonaligned meeting, did other member express further positions on the U.S. air raids against the cities of Tripoli and Benghazi?

[Guissou] I said it at the beginning of this meeting. As a matter of fact, the political commission examined this question, which was one of the hottest issues on the agenda. Of course, we condemned these terrorist raids against a sovereign member-state of the United Nations and the OAU and an African state.

We decided at the request of our delegation — note this! — we decided to send a delegation made up of ministers from member-states of the Security Council such as Congo to meet with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in Tripoli as a sign of the solidarity of the Nonaligned countries with Libya following the U.S. terrorist aggression. We also instructed the same delegation to proceed to New York to take part in the Security Council debate which took place thanks to the active support of Burkina Faso. It condemned the terrorist raids which left many victims including children, innocent victims barely aged 18 months. So we denounced that indiscriminate terrorist aggression.

The New Dehli meeting examined other topical issues including the real threats of similar attacks against sovereign countries by those who arrogate to themselves to behave in a way that violates all international laws and regulations on the coexistence among states.

[Third reporter] Comrade Minister, during your trip, you also examined the Western Sahara problem. Can one expect the effective participation of the SDAR in meetings even in the event of a boycott by countrias that refuse to recognize the SDAR?

[Guissou] I believe that Burkina Faso and all progressive peoples and their countries are happy about the current evolution toward a peaceful solution to the Western Sahara question. We have grounds to hope that a rapid solution will be found to the conflict inasmuch as the parties involved have agreed — thanks to the United Nations and the current OAU chairman — to hold discussions. These are positive developments that give us hope that a rapid solution can be found to this painful problem which has caused serious concern within the OAU.

In this regard, I will recall that although Burkina has always spelled out its position clearly in favor of the self-determination of the Saharan people, it has also rejected positions tending to weaken the OAU through the withdrawal of some of its members. We have always said that we feel the OAU is a forum for all countries to hold discussions despite whatever differences may exist among them. We deplored the withdrawal of Morocco and we have always expressed our hope to see Morocco return to the OAU for discussions even though our fundamental position on the issue is well-known.

[Second reporter] Comrade Minister, you have also visited Tehran. What does life look like in that country which is engaged in an Islamic revolution under the leadership of Ayatollah Khomeyni?

[Guissou] Well, I think this is a diplomatic overture by Burkina Faso, a redeployment of our diplomatic activities on the international scene. As you can see on the map, our trip took us to virtually all regions of tension, including to southern Africa.

As you know, Iran is a large producer of oil and natural gas. It is very rich. It is also a powerful country to contend with politically at the international level. This is why I feel that it is quite normal for Burkina Faso to get in touch with a country that counts a lot in the Gulf region. Its weight has been considerably increased since the inception of the Islamic revolution in 1979. This revolution has led to social transformations and moralization the depth of which can hardly be perceived from outside. The moralization of the society, the search for a cultural identity, and the rejection of mental, cultural, or other alien influences is so marked that it deserves particular attention.

I feel that one must do away with prejudices, especially the counterrevolutionary, often pro-imperialist and even imperialist campaign against the struggle of the Iranian people. Doing away with such prejudices, one will actually understand that country's rejection of imperialist domination and any foreign stranglehold on Iran. This rejection began, I believe, in September 1977-1978 and resulted in the proclamation of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

During our visit, it was said that our views were convergent on certain points. This is true. I believe that one must not only see the Islamic aspect of the Iranian revolution. That revolution also has socioeconomic aspects. It rejects the misery of the people and the frantic enrichment by a minority.

In fact, the Iranian citizen has now gone beyond the mere vital minimum needs. He eats his fill and he is dressed in decent garments. He is not obliged to subserviently copy foreign models. Even though this attracts sometimes unjustified attacks, we can certainly say that a people has stood up in Iran and they are making efforts to remain free. This commands respect whatever view one may have on such a position.

We met a people determined to overcome some natural or artificial obstacles resulting from their options — ideological, political, cultural, and even sociological — which they have the absolute right to uphold but which some people tend to oppose. We feel that the Burkinabe people have much to gain in learning of the transformations in other countries such as Iran. They can thus derive experience from what is going on there in order to improve their own conditions back home. That is what we can say about our visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

[First reporter] Comrade Minister, you have returned from a mission to Angola, Zaire, Gabon, India, Brunei, and Iran. Can one say in conclusion that the mission was successful?

[Guissou] Yes. There is no doubt about this: I will affirm that the mission was a success because everywhere we went, we received a fraternal and friendly welcome. We were able to assess how much the options and orientation of our country are respected and taken into consideration.

We have support. Many peoples admire us and expect us to continue along our path, make improvements, learn lessons from our failures, and always march forward.

Beninese Delegation Meets Sankara, Departs
AB142212 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 14 May 86

[Excerpt] At the end of a 3-day friendly and working visit to our country, the Beninese delegation led by Comrade Girigissou Gado left Ouagadougou this afternoon for Cotonou. Before its departure, the delegation was received in audience for a lengthy time this afternoon by the comrade chairman of the National Council of the Revolution and president of Burkina Faso [Captain Thomas Sankara]. This audience, the leader of the Beninese delegation said, served as an opportunity to inform the comrade president about the job done by the Beninese and Burkinabe delegations which met for 2 days in our captial.

GHANA

Libya-Based Islamic Group To Help Build School
AB142135 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] The International Islamic Call Society based in Libya is to assist the Tema Muslim community in the construction of a 15 million cedis school complex at Tema. The cultural attache at the Libyan Embassy, Mr Ali (Abujaoudin), announced this at the project site. The complex, sited at Community 7, comprises a 3-story school block and offices, a library, mosque, staff bungalow, canteen, and recreational ground. It will offer lessons in English and Arabic to help broaden the scope of Muslim students on Islamic laws and tradition.

Mr (Abujaoudin), who is also a member of the Ghana branch of the International Islamic Call Society, noted that conflicts among nations retard social and economic progress. He said it has always been the desire of the government and people of Libya to promote goodwill and understanding among men irrespective of race, creed, or religion.

LIBERIA

Government Employees To Receive February Pay Soon
AB141815 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1710 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Government employees will begin receiving their salaries for the month of February by the end of the week. According to Finance Minister Robert Tubman, upon completion of payment of salaries for February, payment for subsequent months will begin until salary arrears owed government employees are paid.

At a press conference yesterday, Minister Tubman said he was certain that the Finance Ministry will meet the mandate of President Samuel K. Doe to make government employees' salaries current by the end of June. The finance minister has, meanwhile, appealed to government employees to be patient while government mobilizes revenue for the payment of salaries in the weeks ahead.

NIGERIA

Radio Examines Chernobyl Accident, Nuclear Reactors
AB141740 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 14 May 86

[News analysis]

[Text] On the 25th of April a fatal nuclear accident occurred at the Chernobyl nuclear pmwer station in the Soviet Union. Fire had (?burst) one of the reactors, leading to radioactive leak into the atmosphere. The Soviet Union had said that only four people died as a result of the radiation emitted from the reactor. Western scientists are insisting that the death toll was on the order of thousands of people. What is, however, clear is that the incident at the Chernobyl nuclear power station is one of the worst nuclear accidents so far recorded, since nuclear reaction became a huge source of energy.

The fact that more than 20,000 people were evacuated from a radius of about 100 km from the scene of the accident underscores the dimension of the problem. Also, vegetables and (?meats) from the Soviet Union and some East European countries are being refused in Western Europe and other parts of the world. This is for fear of radioactive contamination. Neighbors of the Soviet Union have panicked in the wake of the nuclear accident. Some of them, in fact, recorded radiation much higher than normal.

But their fears are now being allayed as assurances are being given by the Soviet authorities that the situation is under control. However, for the past 2 weeks, the incident has made the use of nuclear reactors as a source of energy a topical issue around the globe. The current discussion on the issue, for one thing, has somehow increased average knowledge about nuclear reactors. Many people now know that these reactors are devices which generate a large amount of heat and radiation. It is also known that a dark compound of uranium is responsible for the release of the heat and radiation. Nuclear scientists have further explained that the resultant energy is being used to generate electricity and to satisfy heat requirements of heavy industries like food processing, pulp and paper, iron and steel, as well as chemicals.

The utility of nuclear energy is demonstrated by the fact that it is now responsible for 15 percent of the total power generation in the world. There are 101 nuclear power stations in the United States alone. The Japanese derive 26 percent of their total energy needs from their nuclear power stations. France must save up to 1.2 million barrels of oil daily by obtaining three-quarters of her energy needs from nuclear reactors. Today 26 countries are using nuclear reactors as a source of energy.

The misfortune of this development lies in the controversy surrounding it. Protagonists of nuclear energy believe that it is a field of engineering that has relieved mankind of heavy dependence on traditional sources of energy. Those opposed to it have supported themselves with the fact that no amount of safety measures would prevent fatal accidents that can threaten human existence. They argue that since the development of nuclear

power stations, not less than 20,000 accidents have been recorded. At least 1,000 were said to be quite fatal. It is also the concern of those opposed to nuclear power generation that the disposal of its solid and gaseous wastes remains a big hazard to life.

In spite of these contentions, governments in countries where nuclear power stations are being proliferated insist that such stations are cost-effective. Therefore, they have ignored thousands of antinuclear power demonstrations. The demonstrations are bound to increase in intensity as the Chernobyl nuclear accident serves as a reminder to everyone that the search for alternative sources of energy has culminated in the storage of lethal radioactive material which constitutes a real threat to mankind.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Sends Message to USSR's Gorbachev

MB141431 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, has sent a message to CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev thanking him for the warm reception and hospitality accorded to the Angolan delegation during its visit to the USSR. The message, sent by the Angolan head of state after his return to Luanda, said this visit was an important step in strengthening friendship, solidarity, and cooperation between the two peoples, parties, and governments.

In a commentary dedicated to the recent visit by the Angolan head of state to the USSR, ANGOP also emphasized friendship, cooperation, and solidarity existing between the two countries for many years as evidence of shared principles and objectives which have always united the two peoples. ANGOP says in the commentary that the visit of Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos confirmed that there is something more than mere interstate relations between the two countries. ANGOP underlined that, in addition to diplomatic and economic ties between Angola and the USSR, there are identical points of view and principles on current international issues.

UNITA Official Discusses Zambian Help to MPLA

MB141936 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 14 May 86

["Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Relations between Zambia and UNITA have suddenly taken a sharp turn for the worse. President Kaunda has attacked an American decision to supply Stinger missiles to the guerrillas in their fight against the MPLA government in Luanda. For their part, UNITA has threatened to retaliate against Zambia if they assist the MPLA government in any way. Zambia, of course, shares a common border with the part of Angola controlled by UNITA. On the line to Paris, Robin White asked Jeremiah Chitunda, UNITA's secretary for foreign affairs, how he saw relations between his movement and Zambia.

[Begin recording] [Chitunda] We deplore the attitudes of the Zambian Government, in particular of President Kenneth Kaunda who at a time when the Zambian leader should help, should continue to make efforts to help Angolans find peace and reconcile with one another, the Zambian leaders think to commit themselves more and more to the Soviet Union (?and their side), thereby deepening the gap and the wound between Angolans themselves. We have noticed for the past several weeks and several months in addition to the rhetoric that remains clearly anti-UNITA and against our resistance, these are [words indistinct] occupation, we have noticed on a number of times shots being fired from the Zambian side against Angolans on the UNITA side. Our means of transportation has been shot at by Zambian police along the border. There have been acts of kidnappings and these hostile acts by Zambia have been mounting.

[White] Presumably, there must be some reason for the Zambians firing at you — if they have.

[Chitunda] We can't think of any actions or any attitudes on our side that could trigger that type of behavior from the Zambian side except perhaps the effort to create conditions in Zambia that would be taken advantage of or that could allow eventually the MPLA, the Cubans, and the Soviet forces to utilize the Zambian territory for fight against UNITA in the part of Angola that we control right now.

[White] Have you any evidence that could support your claim that the MPLA might be about or is already in Zambian soil?

[Chitunda] We think that the idea of using the Zambian territory to invade Angola has been entertained by the MPLA, authorities and by Lusaka and we insist on the (?premise) that if (?any attack was to happen), Zambia would have to bear the full responsibility for our prompt reply to that type of hostile action.

[White] But do you have any information at all that MPLA troops are already in Zambia?

[Chitunda] Not the MPLA forces yet on the Zambian territory, but we are aware of a movement in that sense.

[White] So, are you claiming that the Zambian government and the MPLA have reached some kind of agreement?

[Chitunda] We think there is such agreement, yes.

[White] Why do you think that? What is your information?

[Chitunda] We have very reliable sources of information on that. We have been monitoring very carefully the developments in this affair but it is a little bit premature to reveal the exact nature of this information.

[White] As you spoke earlier, you claimed earlier that Zambian troops have been firing at you from across the border. Have you fired back? Has there actually been any fighting at all between yourselves and the Zambians?

[Chitunda] Our response has been very limited and purely defensive, but we are preparing to respond in a much more effective and broader way. We have the means, we have the know-how, and we have the people on our side.

[White] But as yet been no major exchange of fire between yourselves and Zambians?

[Chitunda] Not in the form of declared armed conflict, yet. [end recording]

PLO's 'Arafat Arrives on Visit; Talks Begin

MB141354 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Official talks between the PLO and the MPLA-Labor Party started in Luanda today. Here we have a report from our correspondent Pedro Correia.

[Begin Correia recording] Talks between PLO and MPLA-Labor Party delegations began in Luanda today. Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the republic, and Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of PLO, head their respective delegations. Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Luanda yesterday on a 2-day official and friendly visit. The talks center on southern African and Middle East issues, particularly the Palestinian issue. Other issues of common interest may also be discussed.

The Angolan delegation, led by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, includes the following comrades: Afonso van Dunem Mbinda, minister of external relations; Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale, defense minister; Alexandre Rodrigues Kito, interior minister; Pedro de Castro van Dunem Loy, minister of state for production; Kundi Payama, minister of state for inspection and control production; Juliao Mateus Paulo Dino Matross, secretary of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee for the state and judicial bodies; Roberto de Almeida, secretary of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee for ideology; and Francisco Magalhaes Paiva, director of the FAPLA political department, all of whom are members of the party Political Bureau. Maria Mabo Cafe, state minister for economic and social spheres; Antonio Jacinto, candidate member of the Political Bureau; and Venancio de Moura, deputy minister of external relations, are also members of the delegation.

The PLO delegation is led by the chairman of the PLO Executive Council, Yasir 'Arafat, and includes members of the Palestinian National Council and the PLO ambassador to Angola, ('Abdu Sa'id). Yasir 'Arafat is visiting Angola at the invitation of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos as part of his tour of various African countries. Yasir 'Arafat has already visited Mali, Nigeria, Gabon, Congo, Burkina Faso, Togo, and Niger. The aim of his visit is to thank these countries and peoples for their support of the struggle of the Palestinian people for their self-determination and their right to create an autonomous and independent Palestinian state. During his visit, PLO Chairman 'Arafat emphasized the ties between the Israel regime and the South African apartheid regime. [end recording]

SOUTH AFRICA

P.W. Botha Speaks to President's Council 15 May

Condemns 'Meddling'

MB151236 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1235 GMT 15 May 86

[Text] President's Council, May 15, SAPA — The government had no intention of abdicating and would use all its might, which had not even remotely been fully exerted so far, against those bent on violence, the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, said today. Addressing the President's Council, he said uncertainties and confusion which had grown out of disinformation disseminated by the country's enemies and was aggravated by "meddling" groups visiting from abroad. "The more uncalled-for intervention takes place, the more confusion and misconceptions will be resisted by South Africans," Mr Botha said. South Africa did not want to disengage its foreign relations, "but the uncalled-for interference at times assume proportions which prove conclusively that some countries wish to obscure their problems by interfering with ours." Some of these groups were well-intentioned but the activities of others had only resulted in adding to the confusion.

Mr Botha also appealed for an end to violence and called on all "balanced and responsible South Africans" to help the government to get the country on the road to prosperity, stability and security. This could only be done along constitutional lines, he said.

A false impression was often created that the government was remiss in maintaining what had been built up over many generations, "and that we are on the road to abdication." "I reject this false impression," President Botha said. "We will not allow our spiritual and material heritage, built up over 300 years, to fall willy nilly into the hands of a revolutionary power clique. The powers of stability and responsibility outstrip the forces of chaos."

He felt it necessary to repeat clearly the government's view on reform and negotiation. The near cliche that reform was bound to bring uncertainty was often accompanied by doubt concerning the government's ability to effectively administer the process of reform and to guarantee an acceptable solution. "This uncertainty and doubt have, understandably so, induced many people to insist that the government should be specific, not only as regards the direction of the process of reform, but also as regards the contents of the end result," Mr Botha said.

Many demanded from the government a declaration of intent to provide impetus to the negotiating process. Many people in this category, and others, had stated the government should not be prescriptive and required an open-ended agenda. "Clearly there is a real risk that if the government should comply with the request for a declaration of intent, it would stand accused of being prescriptive. To complicate matters even further, some people and institutions have laid down certain preconditions which they require to be met even before they enter into a process of negotiation."

Others subscribed to political models and concepts which could not be applied to the RSA while others attempted to gain support for "contemptuous disloyalty to the country abroad." "As far as the South African government is concerned it remains adamant that it is prepared to negotiate with citizens of South Africa, provided that they do not resort to violence as a means of attaining their political and other goals, or call on foreign agencies to support them," Mr Botha said.

The government was not a minor party in a so-called faction fight. Legally the government represented the state and any

reform proposals would have to recognise this. "Negotiation, of necessity, implies that participants should accept that not all their requirements are likely to be met and it implies a willingness to listen, to discuss and seek solutions." Such solutions would result from deliberations by South Africans in the interest of South Africa. "Essentially it is a process of give and take during which people are required, on the one hand, to scale down their demands and, on the other, to be lenient when required to make concessions to satisfy reasonable demands. It is in this spirit that the government approaches the process of negotiation," he said.

He appealed to all who chose peaceful constitutional change to display the same disposition. "Having said this I am constrained to decline requests to be specific about the end product precisely because it must be a product of negotiation." Parliament was dealing with a number of measures which were the result of such negotiation and his government had gone far to meet legitimate demands. "I am not at the disposal of people who make excessive demands," President Botha said and listed his government's set of democratic, Christian norms required for negotiation. He had suggested creating a national council which could:

— create opportunities for joint planning and preparation of a new constitutional dispensation;
— give black communities an interim say in government; and
— promote healthy relations and human dignity, rights and freedoms.

"Radicalism from neither side can make any contribution," he said. "I would however be neglecting my duty if I did not put it clearly that the government is determined to maintain order. Those who perpetrate violence are served notice that unless they forsake violence, they will unavoidably face the full might at the state's disposal and which has not even remotely been fully employed. It is my deepest wish that senseless violence will now come to an end," he said. There was no cause for panic but good cause for responsible action. "South Africa is worth much more than those who play recklessly with its greatest interests," Mr Botha said.

Delineates Nonnegotiable Principles

MB151238 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1237 GMT 15 May 86

[Text] President's Council, May 15, SAPA — The state president, Mr P.W. Botha, today spelt out certain important principles which were not negotiable in the new constitutional set-up. Addressing the President's Council, Mr Botha said whatever negotiated solutions one could produce would have to be implemented by parliament since negotiated reform had to be implemented constitutionally. "This includes the possibility of general elections or a referendum, in the case of drastic deviation from already accepted policies." The government, he said, subscribed to certain fundamental norms and values by which it would be guided throughout the process of negotiation in the belief that a negotiated settlement was only possible within the parameters of these norms and values. "It will also be guided by these norms and values while it continues to govern the country as a civilised state.

These norms and values, Mr Botha said, included the following which would have to be entrenched in any new dispensation — the realisation of the democratic ideal since it was the government's accepted principle that only democratic institutions could meet the demands of justice and fairness. "This means that a democratic dispensation of government which must accommodate the legitimate political aspirations of all South Africa's communities must be designed and implemented. Such a dispensation must take cognisance of and reflect the multi-cultural nature of the South African society and must provide for visible and effective protection of minority groups and the rights against domination and for self-determination for such groups and communities. South Africa is a country of minorities and a multicultural society. Its diversity is a fact that must be accepted," Mr Botha said.

The government, he said, was committed to devise such democratic solutions in cooperation with South Africans who were also committed to peaceful and democratic solutions and who rejected violence as a means of achieving political goals. "In this respect it is the government's conviction that only purposeful broadening of democracy of the South African society at large and accompanying socio-economic reform can ensure lasting peace and stability. Adherence to Christian values and civilised norms with recognition and protection of freedom of faith and worship was important. This principle is a cornerstone of our existence as a civilised state."

Maintenance of the sovereignty and the integrity of the republic was also of the utmost importance. "This requires well disciplined and suitably equipped security forces. It means that South Africa must be able to protect the integrity of its borders, as well as to defend its peoples against internationally organised terrorism and to maintain law and order. "Nobody must underestimate our determination in this regard. As a regional power in southern Africa, this our indisputable duty," Mr Botha said.

Mr Botha said the government was committed to the sanctity and indivisibility of law and its just application as well as the independence of the judiciary and the equality of all under the law. Liberty as a cornerstone of true democracy must manifest itself on different levels, Mr Botha said. "Firstly, on the personal and individual level which also implies respect for and the protection of the human dignity, life and property of all. Secondly, liberty on the group and community level which implies respect for and the promotion and protection of the right to self-determination of population groups and peoples. Thirdly, liberty on the state and national level to safeguard the integrity and freedom of the country to secure the protection of our citizens through the application of civilised standards of justice, order and security."

True democracy for the republic and all its peoples, individually and collectively, must be recognised in each of these components of freedom since the absence of such recognition would diminish, not increase, the freedom of the country's peoples, Mr Botha said. There should be a furtherance of private enterprise and effective competition as well as confidence in the economy. There should also be an elimination of discrimination implying selection of unfavourable treatment or prejudical action on the basis of race, cultural affiliation or religious conviction, he added.

EPG Meets Ministers, Boesak, Squatters

MB141743 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1740 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Cape Town, May 14, SAPA — The Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group (EPG) spent their second working day in Cape Town today meeting groups as diverse as Hout Bay squatters and senior cabinet ministers. After the unscheduled meeting this afternoon at a Newlands hotel between a squatter delegation and EPG co-leader, Gen Olusegun Obasanjo, the mission headed for the H.F. Verwoed building for another round of talks with senior government officials. The peace-and-dialogue group are expected to see President P.W. Botha tomorrow or the next day and are also seeking a meeting this year with ANC leader Nelson Mandela in Pollsmoor Prison.

Significantly, Mr Botha is due to make what a spokesman for his office called "an important announcement" to the President's Council tomorrow afternoon.

The EPG promised to try and prevent alleged police harassment of squatters in Hout Bay after a delegation forced an impromptu meeting with representatives at their hotel headquarters. About 40 black squatters from Dawidskraal in Hout Bay are facing arrest after ignoring an order from the police and Western Cape administration board to move to Khayelitsha. The delegation of nine squatters (including two small children), a community worker, and two members of the Hout Bay Action Committee walked into the hotel lobby at lunchtime and requested a meeting with the EPG. They were invited upstairs where they held talks with the co-chairman of the EPG and former Nigerian president, Gen Glusegun Obasanjo, and the group's legal advisor, Mr Jeremy Pope.

The delegation told Mr Pope and Gen Obasanjo that the Western Cape Development Board [WCDB] and divisional council employees had demolished the shacks of 39 black squatters at Dawidskraal in Hout Bay in May 1, and police arrested the occupants for illegal squatting. The squatters were released on R40 bail after two court appearances. Today, police and WCDB officials told the squatters they had until tomorrow to move to Khayelitsha or they would be re-arrested. The delegation said most of the squatters worked in Hout Bay and many had been born there or had lived there for many years. If they moved to Khayelitsha they woud have to pay R10 a day to travel to work as there were no jobs in the new township.

They were sheltering in a church in Hout Bay to escape the police and were "desperate", they said. Community worker, Mr Dick Meter, told the EPG the actions of the authorities showed that the government's reforms "make no difference to the people."

Gen Obasanjo said the EPG would like to investigate the matter and would try to persuade the Hout Bay police not to harass the squatters. "It is difficult for us to become involved in particular cases, but we will look into this and let the government know we are aware of your situation," he said. Mr Pope promised the delegation that the EPG would "not close its eyes to the suffering of the people." Although the EPG could not do anything that would "undermine the law" of the country, it would try to use its influence to help the squatters. He took down the name of the Hout Bay police station and promised to contact the station commander. During the meeting, the delegation told Mr Pope that they wanted "complete political change" in South Africa and did not beleive in the government's reforms. When they asked him how he saw the future of the country, he said: "It's going to take a long time to sort this out because its such a mess."

The EPG have already met the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, and his deputy, Mr Ron Miller, and the minsiter of home affairs, Mr Stoffel Botha.

The group has also met with UDF [United Democratic Front] patron Dr Allan Boesak, who told reporters today that he ahd attempted to convey to the EPG the point of view of groups opposed to the government. Dr Boesak said he had told the EPG that "there is now a much more blatant form of open repression and state terrorism towards the people than when they (the EPG) were here last in March."

In is understood that the EPG may be leaving for Lusaka earlier than originally planned, probably by the weekend, in a bid to allay the growing ANC suspicions over the latest mission. Indications from Lusaka are that the ANC leadership is "thoroughly sceptical" about the objectives of the current EPG exercise which is increasingly being seen as a device being used by Pretoria to stall Commonwealth recommendations for sanctions.

In an apparent bid to distance the ANC from the latest initiative, an ANC spokesman in Lusaka said today that the organisation had yet to be formally presented with the EPG proposals. These include the release of political prisoners, the unbanning of the ANC and an government undertaking to scrap apartheid in return for an ANC truce in the armed struggle.

Heunis Comments on 'KwaNatal' Authority Option

MB141612 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1611 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] House of Representitives, May 14, SAPA — A bill enabling the creation of joint executive authority between the Natal provincial administration and the KwaZulu government was being prepared and would soon be tabled in parliament, the minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis said today. Speaking in his vote of the budget he said the KwaNatal proposal was a positive move and an example of what could be achieved by negotiation as opposed to confrontation and political rhetoric. The government had approved the plan for a joint executive authority but had not yet received the proposals about a joint legislative authority which was presently being discussed at the Natal indaba.

He said the government could not accede to a request for a moratorium on changes to the Natal provincial system until October 1, 1986, to allow the indaba to put forward its proposals for a joint legislature. The life of the provincial councils had already been extended once from April 29 to June 30 and a further extension could not be considered. This would not affect the negotiations at the indaba because parliamentary legislation to implement any proposals could only be passed in the 1987 parliamentary session.

The chief minsiter of KwaZulu, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi and his cabinet and the administrator of Natal, Mr Radclyffe Cadman and his executive should be complimented for illustrating the type of cooperation which could exist between executive authorities in this country. He said the KwaNatal plan was a pioneering project which if successful, would be a useful prototype for similar institutions in other parts of the country. It had to be emphasised that no fundamental political rights and powers were associated with the concept which was not a new form of second tier government but an instrument for cooperation between existing administrations. The joint executive administration would be headed by a board giving equal representation to both parties. The chairman of the board would have to be acceptable to both and if necessary could hold the post on a rotation basis. Mr Heunis said that communities other than white would in future participate in the Natal provincial administration and would therefore also share in the running of the joint executive administration.

Malan Discusses 'Threat' From Frontline States

MB141813 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1802 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] House of Assembly, May 14, SAPA — The Frontline States had a quantitative "major armaments" advantage over South Africa because of the Soviet strategy of disrupting the arms balance in southern Africa, the minister of defence, General Magnus Malan, said today. Commenting on the "external threat" to South Africa during debate on his budget allocation, he said the Frontline States, however, had a "substantial backlog" when it came to the quality of military personnel, infrastructure and the use of equipment. "They are actually making progress through replacing old equipment with the modern and this is being maintained by surrogate personnel because the locals are not yet in a position to do so themselves." These circumstances ought to make it clear to Mr Philip Myburgh, the official opposition spokesman on defence, why it was not possible to accede to his appeal to replace conscription with a larger standing army.

During the 1985/86 financial year, the Frontline States ground forces had increased by 9,200 troops, and surrogate troops — particularly in Angola — by 2,600. These 2,600 men were Cubans seconded to Angola, Gen Malan said. The Soviet Union had supplied 19 attack aircraft — MiG 21's and MiG 23's — to Zambia, Angola, Mozambique, and Tanzania during the year. A total of 25 helicopters had also been delivered to the Frontline States, with 21 going to Angola. These craft had been "highly sophisticated and ultra-modern" MiG 25's and "a few" Mig 17's, he said. Angola had also been supplied with six transport aircraft, while the air-defence system in southern Angola had been expanded, largely in an attempt to limit the activities of South African air force planes operating against SWAPO bases in the area.

"All this illustrates once again the Russian strategy to provide terrorist organizations with safer base areas," Gen Malan said. There was a continuing tendency in the Frontline States to change to more advanced equipment. Angola, for exampie, already possessed "very modern" T62 tanks and had replaced a considerable, number of MiG 17's with "outstanding fighter aircraft" like MiG 23's and SU 22's.

As far as the Frontline States' strategy was concerned, there had been no major change in the year under review. Certain adjustments had in fact been made to restrict the activities of terorist organizations. Botswana had, for example, given priority to measures preventing cross border operations against South Africa. In Angola, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos' "shaky" government had acquired a stronger military component, with 10 serving members of the army being appointed to the Central Committee. President dos Santos had informed his party congress he would spend at least one third of his budget on defence. Angola remained the most important base area for the African National Congress and SWAPO in southern Africa and there was no indication at this stage that President dos Santos would change his attitude to these organizations. "The Cubans have dug in there and Dos Santos is apparently powerless to get rid of them," Gen Malan said.

Says ANC 'Manipulated' by Communists

MB141940 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1927 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] House of Assembly, May 14, SAPA — The new awakening among Western democracies to the dangers of terrorism would hopefully also lead to a greater appreciation and understanding of South Africa's cross-border operations, the minister of defence, General Magnus Malan, said tonight. Speaking in the debate on his budget vote, he said "it would be most encouraging if the West realises the Republic's actions in this regard are not only to protect our own interests but also those of southern Africa and the Western community." He welcomed the joint declaration at the summit meeting in Tokyo last week on combined action against terrorism. Gen Malan said the government could "only trust that the exchange of intelligence and concerted action directed against individual terrorists as well as diplomatic action against those who harbour them will be effective." Libyan activities and other horrific deeds appeared to have created a new awakening of the dangers of terrorism and in this way Libya could prove a blessing to the West.

The same forces that used terrorism as a tool were also the instigators of internal revolutionary violence in South Africa. This violence was part of a two-pronged approach to prepare the way for "a revolutionary political power bid." In the revolutionary process, the population was intimidated, grievances were exploited, innoncent people were killed and law and order was undermined. "The circumstances in which we find ourselves are enough justification for operations against terrorist bases across our borders should the threat originate there," Gen Malan said.

"On the revolutionary front, the African National Congress has intensified its violent onslaught ... our security forces are singled out as a target with the belief being that if you can make them waver, other hurdles and foundations of our society will be easier to overrun." Despite the "black nationalist" group within the ANC, the organization was "clearly manipulated by communists." Commenting on renewed pressure on the government to

talk to the ANC, Gen Malan said leading people in South Africa were subtly projecting the "communist dominated terror movement as reasonable and pragmatic," trying to create a climate in which the government was forced to soften its approach to the ANC. These people regarded the government's reform initiatives as "pure cosmetics" but their press, religious and economic freedom would disappear under the ANC.

In Angola, Moscow had achieved a similar goal through its "tool," the MPLA. "South Africa cannot allow herself to become a victim of this kind of manipulation and power expansion," Gen Malan said. The government's policy was not to negotiate with organizations that offered violence as a solution. The ANC remained welcome at the negotiating table provided it denounced violence. "This is a truth the black nationalists in the ANC should also take serious note of," he said.

Minister: People Support SADF-Police Presence

MB150705 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2153 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] House of Assembly, May 14, SAPA — Most black township residents believed the SADF and the police could end the unrest and guarantee their safety, the deputy minister of defence, Mr Adriaan Vlok, said today. Speaking in the defence budget vote debate, he said an objective and scientific survey, conducted in black townships affected by unrest, had shown that 82 percent of the residents thought the police and the SADF could handle the situation. Sixty two per cent believed the police and the SADF would stop the unrest and 75 per cent said the security forces guaranteed their safety.

"We would like to withdraw the troops from the townships. They are not there of their own will or by choice — they have been sent there by the government to protect the interests of peaceful citizens." Mr Vlok said he objected to statemetns by members of the PFP [Progressive Federal Party] that the SADF was being deployed against blacks inside South Africa. The SADF was not against people of any particular colour but was opposed to anyone who threatened the safety of the state. Mr Vlok said the coutnry's safety should be placed above party politics and the joint management centres set up to deal with grievances and "bottlenecks" in black townships should be kept out of the political arena. These grievances were often exploited by revolutionaries to incite the locals against the government and the state.

He said he had no difficulty with the viewpoints of Mr Harry Schwarz (PFP Yeoville) and the PFP spokesman on defence, Mr Philip Myburgh (PFP Wynberg) who appreciated the communist threat against the country. But Mr Peter Gastrow (PFP Durban Central) and certain other members appeared to "speak with a different voice." "What voice did they use to talk to the ANC in Lusaka? Did they tell them of the threat to South Africa?" The government would only talk to the ANC if it renounced violence because one could not negotiate with violent revolutionaries. He appealed to memebrs of the CP [Conservative Party] not to bring party politics into the defence vote as it was not in the interests of the country, which was facing a revolutionary onslaught.

Boesak Appears Briefly in Cape Town Court

MB121110 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0944 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Cape Town, May 12, SAPA — The president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, Dr Allan Boesak, appeared briefly in the Malmesbury Magistrates Court this morning, SABC News reported. No charges were put and the case was adjourned to September 19. Bail of R20,000 was extended. The minister of the interior, Mr Stoffel Botha, returned Mr Boesak's passport to him on Friday. Safety measures were taken by the police at Malmesbury this morning and all roads leading to the magistrates court were closed to traffic. Police searched all vehicles at roadblocks about 10 km from the town.

Comments on 'Struggle'

MB121212 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0741 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Cape Town, May 12, SAPA — Dr Allan Boesak, president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, told an audience of about 500 in the Athlone Civic Centre yesterday that ways should be found to make the authorities understand that "we find their treatment of our people unacceptable." Dr Boesak condemned police for whipping children at Arcadia High School in Bonteheuwel last week and noted that people there had decided to embark on a rent boycott. He was addressing a meeting in support of detainees held under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act, particularly Mr Hudson Gila, 74, whose detention police have confirmed.

"There is not a single community that has not been touched by this scourge of detentions, teargassings and invasions by the security forces," he said. Yet giving up the struggle was the thought "furthest from our minds," he said. "We will continue to ensure that the South African Government has a thorn in its flesh as long as we breathe. We will not give up our determination to govern this land that is ours."

Dr Boesak suggested the time may have come to light candles again for those who had been detained. He said he hoped communities would meet over the next few weeks "to decide how to show where we stand" and to show "anger and disgust at the way we are being treated."

The commissioner of police has denied a report in a Cape Town morning newspaper that pupils were ordered out of classrooms and whipped by police.

Condemns AWB Movement

MB150702 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0630 GMT 15 May 86

[Text] Cape Town, May 15, SAPA — Dr Allan Boesak, president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, has launched an attack on the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging (AWB) [Afrikaner Resistance Movement] and said he wondered what the difference was between the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, and AWB leader, Mr Eugene Terre'blanche. Dr Boesak and Mr

Trevor Manuel, general secretary of the UDF, were speaking at a meeting at the University of Cape Town [UCT] at the culmination of a NUSAS [National Union of South African Students] campaign for the release of political prisoners. The meeting, attended by about 1,000 students, supported a call for UCT to confer an honorary doctorate on jailed ANC leader, Nelson Mandela.

Dr Boesak said he was of the opinion that the AWB was a problem which the "government and their people created and they must deal with that problem." If the AWB was violent it was because "there is a tradition, a culture of violence in this country that has been born out of hypocrisy." "If the AWB speaks the language of threats and intimidation and of death then its because the South African Government knows no other language than the language of intimidation and threats and violence. I really wonder sometimes what the difference really is between Louis le Grange and Eugene Terre'blanche."

Tutu Press Conference on Apartheid Reported

AU131257 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German 13 May 86 p 2

[Special *DIE PRESSE* report by "M.S."]

[Text] Vienna — According to South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu, sanctions against South Africa that go beyond those imposed to date are the only possibility of preventing the country from finally drowning in blood and violence. With this statement on Monday [12 May] the black church leader and 1984 Nobel Peace Prize laureate, who is staying in Vienna for a short visit, wanted to counter the view that further sanctions contradict the interests of the majority of South Africa's citizens. "Our last chance is the intervention of the international community of states," Tutu stressed when talking to journalists.

"I have seen much violence in my life. I have seen what it does, in Nigeria, in Ethiopia. I have seen our people die like flies. If the international community does not help us our population will not have much choice. Then it might come to my saying: 'We have no choice,' " the bishop said when asked what he himself thinks about using violence. He said that there is less and less time left. He himself is therefore in danger, in the same way as all those who still advocate nonviolence in South Africa.

Furthermore, the head of the Anglican Church in southern Africa emphatically rejected the opinion that there is a leadership vacuum in South Africa with respect to a change in power: "Certainly not on our side." The West should recognize that a permanently stable country at the Cape is in its interest. Sanctions are often rejected with the argument, he said, that South Africa is strategically important for the West. After an assumption of power by the blacks this importance could be reduced when South Africa remembers that the West did not help in its "liberation."

Asked what he, Tutu ("I am no politician, although it seems that I am one"), recommends to the Austrians, the archbishop said: "I do hope that your country decides finally to stand on the side of justice. Do what you consider to be the right things. I ask for an ethical decision, not for a strategic or economic one."

Commentary Criticizes Tutu Call for Sanctions

MB141016 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 14 May 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] Against the full weight of opinion of astute economic thinkers at home and abroad, the bishop of Johannebsurg, Bishop Desmond Tutu, continues his appeal across the Western world for economic sanctions against South Africa. He told the annual conference of the International Press Institute in Vienna this week that South Africa was on the brink of catastrophe, and that the situation could be salvaged if economic sanctions were imposed.

He does not back up this argument with any facts and offers nothing else in support of it except his belief that economic sanctions will bring the South African Government to its knees. He dismisses the argument that blacks will suffer most with the remark that they have suffered so much that a little more will not matter. His attitude demonstrates not only a lamentable lack of understanding of economic realities, but also a callousness one would hardly associate with a man of the cloth.

German industralist Mr (Hans Metter) said during a recent return visit to South Africa that disinvestment was based on the idea of a revolutionary climate, and if this backfired it could lead to a conventional revolution. Well-known British commentator and author Paul Johnson says, and we quote: The current attempt to destroy the South African economy seems to me one of the most wicked things that has occurred in the world since the day of Hitler and Stalin. I can understand why the ANC wishes to bring about this catastrophe, because they want power and this is the only way they can get it. But why so many churchmen should desire it, professing as they do to care for the welfare of ordinary Africans, is a mystery to me. Paul Johnson makes the point that South Africa's factories and mines are the means whereby the smaller southern African countries survive. If its economy collapses, the one engine of growth in the continent will be put out of action, and its fall will drag down all the countries of southern Africa, indeed, perhaps all sub-Saharan Africa.

Bishop Tutu either has no understanding of these cogent arguments or, more ominously, he chooses to ignore them.

Anglican Bishop in Court on Public Violence Charge

MB141159 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1156 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Klerksdorp, May 14, SAPA — Bishop Sigisbert Ndwandwe, 56, of the Anglican Church, appeared briefly in the Klerksdorp magistrates court today in connection with an allegation of public violence. The case was postponed to May 28 for further investigation. No charges were put to Bishop Ndwandwe, of Jourbeton township, near Klerksdorp, and he was not asked to plead.

Violence Continues in KwaNdebele Protests

MB141316 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] At least two people are reported to have been killed as violence continues to flare in KwaNdebele, northeast of Pretoria. Thousands of students have gathered for a meeting to protest Pretoria's plans to grant the homeland independence later this year. They are also said to be seeking government explanations about the alleged presence of vigilantes supported by the authorities. Police have tried to seal off the area as looting and stoning continues for the second day. Witnesses say hundreds of rounds of teargas have been fired. Police in Pretoria have refused to comment, saying any information must come from authorities in KwaNdebele. However, police in the homeland have refused to supply any information.

Further on 'Sustained Unrest'

MB141621 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1619 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Pretoria, May 14, SAPA — Reports of sustained unrest today continued to emerge from KwaNdebele — scheduled to become independent on December 11 — while police in the area clamped an official news blackout on the situation. Reports said two people had been shot dead and scores injured by police attempting to quell unrest today. A police source said five people had been shot and that "sustained fighting" was in progress today. The unrest apparently started after a funeral, when police and soldiers used rubber bullets, birdshot and teargas throughout the territory to disperse hundreds of marauding youths.

The UDF [United Democratic Front]-affiliated Moutse Youth Congress today lauded the "revolt" as "an historic event." "It is the first large-scale protest against independence," said a spokesman. The funeral had been held for Mr Jacob Skosana, whose mutilated body was found after he had been kidnapped by the Imbokotho vigilante group.

A Col Gysbers, speaking on behalf of the police commissioner for KwaNdebele, Brig C. van Niekerk, said today police were not prepared to comment on the reports or to confirm any deaths or injuries. "It is no use phoning because we are not prepared to comment," he said.

He referred the reporter to a telex headed "Revolt: KwaNdebele" from the area's commissioner-general, Mr G.J. van der Merwe, which said: "The police of KwaNdebele were forced to ask a number of people who wanted to attend an illegal gathering at the village of Captain Mapoch to disperse." No mention of police action or unrest was made in the telex. He said however that the KwaNdebele government had been told at a meeting — "similar" to the one held at Captain Mapoch's village — on Monday of "concern" about the Imbokhotho "cultural" organisation and the future of the Ndebele people after independence.

As a result, Mr Van der Merwe said, KwaNdebele's chief minister, Mr Simon Skosana, had released a statement saying that if legislative assembly members requested it, the independence issue could "again be discussed in full." The cabinet had also requested the assembly of captains to advise it on the future of Imbokhotho. One of the conditions under which KwaNdebele would accept independence would be the granting of double citizenship, Mr Skosana said in the statement.

Mr van der Merwe ended his telexed statement from Groblersdal with the observation: "The situation in KwaNdebele is currently under control." Efforts to reach him and Mr Skosana about the unrest situation were unsuccessful.

A spokesman for the minister of constitutional development and planning said Mr Chris Heunis had no comment about the issue.

The Moutse Youth Congress spokesman, however, called on KwaNdebele people to "prepare for the kind of siege we arouse by every protest." People could do this "by forming various popular organisations and to strengthen the UDF in the area, particularly the Dennilton Youth Congress and the Moutse Youth Congress," he said. People had united to fight the "independence deathtrap" of homeland leaders Mr Cedric Phatudi of Lebowa and KwaNdebele's Mr Skosana. "Phatudi and Skosana are on the same mission, of enslaving our people on behalf of the apartheid system," the spokesman said.

Situation 'Quiet but Tense'

MB150839 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0819 GMT 15 May 86

[Text] Siyabuswa, May 15, SAPA — The situation in riot-torn KwaNdebele was "quiet but tense" this morning, a government spokesman said in the capital, Siyabuswa. Figures regarding the number of people killed, injured and arrested during unrest so far this week were not available, but would be supplied to homeland leader Mr Simon Skosana and his government by the commissioner of police, Brig C. Van Niekerk, today. Unofficial estimates put the death toll as high as six, following the alleged use of "live" ammunition, rubber bullets, birdshot and tearsmoke by police assisted by the SADF.

White government officials residing outside Siyabuswa were escorted to work today by police and SADF Casspir armoured vehicles today, a government spokesman said. No trouble was experienced on the way.

The unrest spanning the whole region was sparked off by opposition to KwaNdebele's imminent "independence" and the alleged attacks on opponents by the Imbokotho vigilantes, which is headed by Mr Skosana.

'Chaos' Reported in Tembisa as Funerals Delayed

MB150836 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0828 GMT 15 May 86

[Text] Johannesburg, May 15, SAPA — There was chaos in Tembisa, near Kempton Park, yesterday when the funerals of three people who died three weeks ago could not take place because of police action, the *SOWETAN* newspaper reports.

Many police and army officers manned roads and all venues in the township where the funeral services were to be held were under police guard. They included two cinemas and the local sports stadium. Those who were to be buried were Mr Vincent Xaba, 20, Mr Samuel Tlhatlha, 32, and Mr Mpithizele Mahlangu. Hundreds of people who tired to get to the venues were turned back and the police told the press to leave immediately.

SOWETAN reporter Mojalefi Moseki, who was arrested and later released after being told to leave the township, said he saw five injured people — two of them in a serious condition — at Tembisa hospital. Police told undertakers to go to the police station and buses driven by members of the South African Defence Force fetched family members for the burials. The families refused and the *SOWETAN* says it has established that the coffins were returned to the parlours.

A member of the Tembisa Civic Assocaiton told the newspaper that four youths were killed at a night vigil on Tuesday night. However, the police said only two of the deaths were related to unrest. There was a massive stayaway in the township and buses and taxis did not operate throughout the day. The Tembisa branch of the Congress of South African Trade Unions had called on township residents to stay away from work for the funerals.

Police Issue Unrest Situation Reports

14 May

MB141842 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1835 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] Pretoria, May 14, SAPA — Here is this evening's unrest report:

At Soweto (Witwatersrand) two private dwellings were petrol-bombed. In the same area a bus and a delivery vehicle were destroyed when set alight. Four private vehicles were also stoned.
At Thumahole near Parys, arsonists damaged two private dwellings. The Selegiwe and Thabuthatsi schools were stoned.
At Cathcart in the border area, police found the charred body of a man.
After a funeral at Galeshewe near Kimberley, the SAP used tear smoke to disperse a mob when SAP vehicles were stoned. One round of birdshot was fired at a youth with a petrol bomb in his possession. No injuries were reported.
Incidents of intimidation occurred at four primary schools when mobs chased scholars out of the classrooms.
At Mohlakeng near Randfontein, a private vehicle was extensively damaged by arsonists.
At KwaMashu near Durban, the SAP used tear smoke to disperse youths when they gathered illegally on three occasions.
At Tembisa near Kempton Park, a man with a wound in his head ran into a house where he died. It is unknown what caused the wound, nor if this incident is unrest related.
A guard of the Development Board used birdshot to disperse a mob when Development Board offices were stoned.
A private dwelling was extensively damaged by arsonists. The SADF fired a rifle at three men when their vehicle was petrol bombed. The three men were arrested, one of them was slightly wounded.
At Guguletu in the Western Province, a development board vehicle was destroyed by arsonists.
At the black residential area near Witbank, three men were slightly wounded and arrested when development board members fired birdshot to disperse a mob when the offices of the Development Board were stoned.
At Mamelodi nine scholars were slightly injured when a mob armed with knives intimidated the scholars at the Tsakolatu High School.
At Mankeng near Kroonstad, the SAP used tear smoke to disperse a mob when their vehicle was stoned.
At Khotsoaneng near Odendaalsrus, members of the development board used tear smoke and birdshot when their vehicle was stoned. Other incidents occurred when Development Board vehicles and a municipal vehicle were stoned.
At Mbekweni near Paarl and at Pheifferville near East London, delivery vehicles were stoned.
In Tonga Trust in Kangwane, a man sustained burn wounds when a delivery vehicle was extensively damaged by petrol bombs.
At Everton near Vanderbijlpark, an SAP vehicle was stoned. A male youth was wounded and arrested when the SAP fired shotguns when a mob stole a vehicle.
At New Brighton near Port Elizabeth, the private dwelling of a police reservist was set alight.
At Vosloosrust near Brakpan, two private vehicles and a delivery vehicle were extensively damaged by arsonists.
At Linghelihle near Cradock, the SAP dispersed a mob with tear smoke when they gathered illegally.
At Motherwell near Port Elizabeth, a delivery vehicle was extensively damaged when it was petrol bombed.

Report ends.

15 May

MB150730 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0728 GMT 15 May 86

[Text] Pretoria, May 15, SAPA — Following is overnight police unrest report. (Issued to SAPA at 9am).

In Motherwell near Port Elizabeth two delivery vehicles were extensively damaged after being petrol bombed. At KwaZakele a policeman fired birdshot at a group of blacks stoning his house. No injuries were reported.
Arsonists using petrol bombs also caused extensive damage to delivery vehicles in the Tonga black area near Schoemansdal in the eastern Transvaal. The driver of one of these vehicles and a passenger sustained serious burn wounds.
Delivery vehicles were also petrol bombed in Soweto, Johannesburg and Langa in the western Cape.
In Soweto 15 blacks robbed a delivery vehicle of its load.
In Soshanguve last night, near Pretoria, two black male and one female passenger were injured when a group of blacks stoned a bus.
In the black residential area near Balfour a black man and a woman sustained burn wounds when blacks set fire to their home.
In another incident police fired birdshot to disperse blacks who were erecting barricades in a road. No injuries were reported.

At Welkom a policeman was slightly injured during an incident in which the police arrested 16 blacks in the town for intimidating black shoppers.

SWAZILAND

Education Minister Sentenced to 9 Months in Prison

MB141207 Mbabane Domestic Service in Siswati 1100 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] The minister of education, Mr Dabulumjiva Nhlabatsi, today lost a case in which he was charged with perjury, forgery, uttering, and fraud. He was sentenced to 9 months imprisonment without the option of a fine in the Mbabane High Court today.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda, Gandhi Speak at Opening of Talks

MB150605 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 14 May 86

[Text] His Excellency President Kaunda today described India as a power for forces of goodness in the world and commended her for maintaining her policy of nonalignment. Speaking at State House at the opening of official talks with visiting Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, Dr Kaunda said he is happy to note that the country had resisted superpowers' attempts to influence it. The president said India, by being the biggest democracy in the world and by its openness, could be an easy target for superpowers in their efforts to acquire spheres of influence. Dr Kaunda also paid personal tribute to the visiting prime minister for following the footsteps of his predecessor in nurturing nonalignment and (?greatness) through the power of thought and goodwill to other people. The president expressed appreciation for Mr Gandhi's outstanding statemanship which has ended the world's anxiety on the future of India following his mother's assassination in 1984.

In reply, Mr Gandhi called on developing countries to narrow the gap between themselves and developed nations. Mr Gandhi said countries like India and Zambia, whose advancement is held back by colonialism, should work together and catch up with the rest of the world, He noted that the world still faces the basic human rights problems and referred to South Africa where the racist regime is crushing every voice that speaks sense.